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ILLEGAL TORTOISE TRADE

Chennai is top node: study

In India, at least 15 species of tortoises and freshwater turtles are illegally traded

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Simmering tensions in the South China Sea

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The concerns of using Aadhaar in welfare

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India's squash team wins gold

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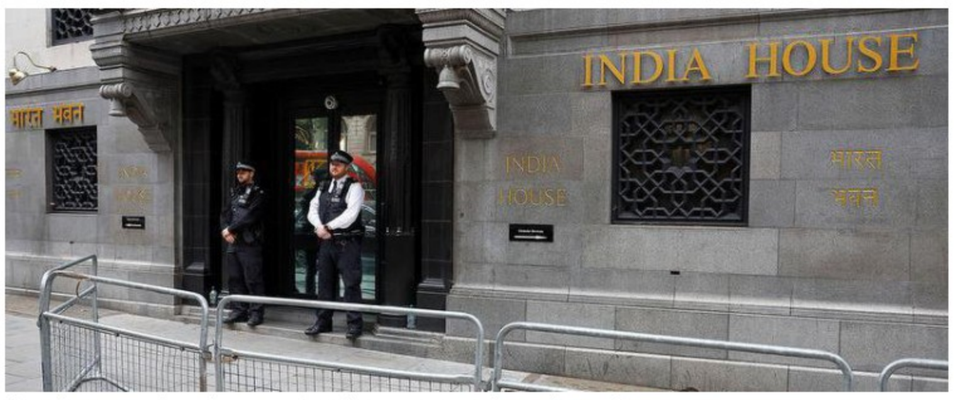
Indian envoy blocked near U.K. gurdwara

New Delhi seeks additional security for High Commissioner; the event in Glasgow was organised by 'senior community leaders'



The India House where the country's High Commission is located in London. REUTERS

Kallol Bhattacherjee
NEW DELHI

India has taken up requirement of additional security for the Indian High Commissioner to the United Kingdom. The matter was raised with the authorities in London after High Commissioner Vikram Doraiswami, who is touring Scotland, was stopped from entering the gurdwara on Albert Drive in Glasgow by two men.

"The High Commissioner went to the gurdwara as he was invited by the gurdwara committee but there were two gentlemen who came and stopped him from stepping out. We have taken up the matter with the U.K. authorities and asked them that they should have arranged security for our envoy on the ground," said a person with knowledge of the incident. In a separate statement, the High Commission of India in London said that the event at the gurdwara in Glasgow was organised by "senior community leaders, ladies and committee members, and a member of Scottish Parliament."

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 8

Mohamed Muizzu

Muizzu wins Maldives presidential run-off poll

Meera Srinivasan
COLOMBO

Front runner and Opposition candidate Mohamed Muizzu was elected President of the Maldives on Saturday, as he beat the India-friendly incumbent Ibrahim Mohamed Solih in a closely fought contest. The result signals a likely shift in both domestic governance and foreign policy of the island nation.

Mr. Muizzu garnered about 54% of the vote, while Mr. Solih secured nearly 46%, say provisional results published by Male-based media.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 8

Huge relief: The IMD on Saturday also forecast a 'normal' north-east monsoon from October to December. THULASI KAKKAT

September rainfall washes off India's monsoon deficit

Jacob Koshy
NEW DELHI

Despite the driest August in a century, India has dodged a drought this year, thanks to unexpectedly heavy rainfall in September.

As of September 30 - officially the last day that counts for monsoon rainfall - India received 94% of the expected rain from June to September. This is below the forecast of 96%, but still within the error margin of the forecast models of the India Meteorological Department (IMD). Rainfall which reaches 96% to 104% of the long-term average is considered 'normal'.

The IMD on Saturday also forecast a 'normal' north-east monsoon from October to December, and 'normal to above-normal rainfall' over large parts of north-west India and the southern peninsula.

The near normal south-west monsoon rainfall however conceals variations over both time and geographies.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 8

NEARBY

Cybercrime network busted

BENGALURU
The Bengaluru police busted a cybercrime network that cheated people promising huge returns on investments, contacting them through instant messaging apps like WhatsApp and Telegram.
» PAGE 2

I'm hurt: Ibrahim

BENGALURU
Upset with the former Chief Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy forging an alliance with the BJP, JD(S) State unit president C.M. Ibrahim on Saturday said he would take a decision on further course of action after meeting like-minded people on October 16. He claimed he was not in the know of developments. » Page 7

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Sri Siddaramaiah
Hon'ble Chief Minister

G20 INDIA
GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA

Karnataka Forest Department

Sri D K Shivakumar
Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister

Hon'ble Minister for
Forest, Ecology and Environment
Shri Eshwar B Khandre
in a meeting with the officials.

69th Wildlife Week - 2023

Theme - Partnerships for Wildlife Conservation

2nd to 8th October, 2023

"Walk for Wildlife Conservation"

From Cubbon Park (High Court Gate No. 2 & 3) to Lalbagh

Date: 2nd October 2023, Monday Time: 07:00 AM

Scan the Code to Register

All are welcome

Come, join us and spread the message of Wildlife Conservation

Aranya Sahayavani: 1926 /aranya.kfd /aranya.kfd @aranya_kfd aranya_kfd

Porbandar trail

On the eve of Gandhi Jayanthi, take a walk through the birthplace of the Mahatma and the unique heritage buildings that continue to flourish in this town

Vijay Soneji
soneji.v@thehindu.co.in

Porbandar is best known for being the birthplace of Mahatma Gandhi, but its heritage architecture and traditional way of life also draw tourists to the town in Gujarat.

" Rano... Pano... Bhano!" goes the local saying to describe this beautiful coastal town. "Rano" refers to the last king of Porbandar Natwarsinhji Rana Jethwa; "Pano" is the local limestone and "Bhano" refers to Bhanji Lavji Gheewala, a firm still in business with its founding family's sixth generation managing its operations. In yesteryear, they exported ghee, says Vinodkumar Sadiya, who is in charge of the Kasturba Gandhi Memorial House.

The local limestone finds a place in most of the 200-year-old houses that flourish in the town. These houses have high ceilings and are furnished in wood, says resident K.K. Samani, who himself lives in a 200-year-old building. "Our limestone can last for about 500 years," he added. Rainwater harvesting systems are part of the buildings.

Gandhiji's birthplace, Kirti Mandir, is in the heart of the town. Most houses around it also have stone carvings of animals such as elephants and lions. A fine example is Kasturba Gandhi's parental home with its stone carvings and wall paintings.

"We maintain our heritage buildings very well," says Bhargav Bapodra, owner of a restaurant in Porbandar. A unique aspect of these buildings is that they have rounded corners. Residents hope the municipality will do more to keep the streets of the old part of the town clean.

The Victoria Jubilee Madressa Boys and Girls High School, established in 1887, is also housed in a heritage building. Its secretary, Faruq Suria, says the town is special because it has never seen communal violence. "We have very good brotherhood till today," he says.

On track: The Porbandar railway station, one of the western-most broadgauge railway stations in the country, is unique for its heritage elements.

Standing tall: A statue of the Mahatma at Manek Chowk.

In memory: Kasturba Gandhi's parental home.

Quiet elegance: Kirti Mandir, the birthplace of Gandhiji.

Cybercrime network busted; 84 accounts flagged in 5,013 complaints registered across States frozen

These accounts had a total transaction of ₹854 crore; police have recovered ₹5 crore. The city cybercrime police were probing 17 cases in which victims lost a total of ₹49 lakh

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Bengaluru police busted a cybercrime network that cheated people promising huge returns on investments, contacting them through instant messaging apps like WhatsApp and Telegram.

Freezing a total of 84 accounts to which the money swindled had been laundered to, police have recovered ₹5 crore. However, the total transaction in these 84 accounts amount to ₹854 crore, indicating the extent of the scam.

These accounts have been flagged in 5,013 similar complaints with the National Cyber Crime Reporting Portal (NCRP) from across several States, said city police commissioner B. Dayananda on Saturday.

The city cybercrime police were probing 17 cases registered in the city regarding the same *modus operandi*, in which victims lost a total of ₹49 lakh. While the module has been busted, city police have only caught a city-based team of six persons working on a commission of 1% to 3% per transaction.

The kingpins who may be operating several such teams across the country or even abroad, are yet to be fully identified.

This may just be one of the nodes in their larger network, sources said. "We have partially established their identity and we are working on tracking them down," Mr. Dayananda said.

The kingpins, who may be operating several such teams across the country or even abroad, are yet to be fully identified. REUTERS

The gang was approaching gullible people through social media, WhatsApp, and Telegram applications under various names, enticing them to invest money for high returns. "When people invested small amounts, the returns would double. As people turned greedy and invested large sums of money to the tune of several lakhs, in many cases borrowed from friends and family or pawning gold, these people turned incommunicado, vanishing with the money," explained Mr. Dayananda.

He said some people were even sent fake messages that their investment had grown to a large sum with interest, stringing them along to entice them to invest even more.

How it was cracked

A woman, who learnt from a friend that she invested in an app called Winegroup.life and made big profits, downloaded the app and evinced interest to invest. She "invested" a total of ₹8.5 lakh in various payments to two accounts and a set of UPI IDs, only to realise she was cheated. She lodged a complaint in April 2023.

Investigating this case, all accounts through which this money was laundered were frozen.

Of them, sleuths found one Bengaluru-based Subbu Enterprises that had received a part of the money from a frozen Tamil Nadu based account.

As this account holder was questioned, it turned out that it was a "mule account", an account hired for rent, sometimes without the knowledge of the account holder. In this case, the account holder led the police to one of his friends who had recently taken his bank account details, who turned out to be part of the cybercrime ring.

His interrogation led them to five other accused, all based out of the city, mostly in their 20s. Of them, the prime accused, now arrested, was linked to the kingpins of this scam only through social media and is not aware of their identity in real life.

Acting on their instructions, he put together a team of six, including himself, in the city. While some hunted and arranged for mule accounts, others approached people in the city and cheated them for a commission on each successful transaction.

Commissioner Mr. Dayananda said now that they had busted a city-based team, part of probably a nation-wide network, linked by the use of the same 84 bank accounts flagged as recipients of the swindled money in cybercrimes in 5013 cases, they will now write to all the States which have reported cases linked to these 84 accounts.

"We have some leads on the identity of the kingpins of the scam and we will work with other agencies to track them down and arrest them," he said.

State govt. to bring uniformity in UG, PG semester exams

Jayanth R.
BENGALURU

The State government has decided to bring uniformity in the Undergraduate (UG) and Postgraduate (PG) semester examinations and is planning to conduct semester examinations in all universities across the State at the same time. The main objective of this reform is to facilitate students in taking competitive exams related to employment and higher education.

M.C. Sudhakar, Minister for Higher and Technical Education, has instructed the Karnataka State Higher Education Council to conduct a comprehensive study and submit a report in this regard.

Why this reform

Universities across the State conduct semester examinations for undergraduate and postgraduate students over a 90-day schedule. However, there is no uniformity in the examination system. Each university has its own academic schedule with its annual term, student enrolment, semester examination, and declaration of the result.

After the COVID-19 pandemic, there has been a massive disruption in the academic schedule of all the universities. There is a lot of delay in the commencement of classes, conducting examination, and result announcement, leading to problems for students, especially those who wish to take up competitive exams such as the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC), Karnataka Public Service Commission (KPSC) Staff Selection Commission (SSC), Banking, Life Insurance Corporation (LIC), Indian Railways, Police services, as well as the entrance exams for higher education.

When the academic exams and recruitment exams are scheduled at the same time, students inevitably have to miss one of the exams.

Speaking to *The Hindu*, Dr. Sudhakar said, "Universities conducting semester exams with their own schedule affects the students who will take other competitive examinations. After COVID-19, there has been a huge delay and chaos in university admissions, commencement of colleges, examinations, and announcement of results. Therefore, we decided to bring uniformity in the academic schedule and semester exams for the UG and PG courses."

He added that the reform is not a one-day or one-month exercise. "It will take at least two or three years to implement it. I have instructed the Karnataka State Higher Education Council to thoroughly study all the matters, including the examination system of all the universities in the State, the examination conducted by the government agencies for various recruitments, exams conducted at the national level and submit a report. Based on the report, uniformity will be implemented in the semester examinations and will apply to all the universities," he said.

Exhibition showcasing art on postcards

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Department of Posts, Karnataka Circle, is organising an exhibition showcasing art on postcards between October 1 and 16 at Sandesh, Museum of Communications at Post Office premises, on Museum Road. The event is inspired by the Postcard art exhibition "Pincode". Postcard art by 10 artists will be on display. Visitors can create their own postcard art and take it, dispatch to their dear ones, or participate in a postcard art competition, the release stated.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that my client has negotiated and decided to purchase flat No. J 305 Mantri Tranquil apartment Gubbalala, Kanakapura Road, Bangalore -560061 from Mr.A.S.Baradwaj. All persons having any cl:im against or to the Schedule Property or any part thereof by way of inheritance, mortgage,sale, conveyance, MOU, Agreement to sell , GPA, transfer, lease deed, tenancy, license, lien, charge, trust, maintenance, easement, gift, etc., howsoever are hereby required to submit the same in writing along with documentary proof to the undersigned at their office within 15 days from the date of publication hereof, failing which my client shall proceed without any reference to such claim and the same, if any, will be considered as waived. On the expiry of the above period my client shall complete the sale transaction with the above owner as if no claims are there on the above mentioned property.

Date: 29-09-2023

Ms.V.N.Deepa
Advocate,
D 1405, Mantri Tranquil Apartment
Gubbalala, Bangalore-560061

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public are informed that our client intends to purchaser converted land bearing BBMP Municipal No. 661/1-161/91, earlier bearing Katha No. 661 measuring North 74 ft 10 inches, South 94 ft 3 inches, East 99 ft 10 inches + 20 ft 9 inches and West 89 ft, totally measuring 9010 Sq ft, carved out of Land bearing Sy. No. 55/1(A) measuring **17400 Sq ft** (converted vide Official Memorandum bearing No.ALN/SR/2765/67-68 dated 11.03.1968), situated at **Borewell Road, Whitefield, Bangalore** and bounded on the

East by : Property bearing No. 240, Borewell Road
West by : Common Road Way measuring in extent 101 ft 2 inches X 12 ft, totally measuring 1280 Square ft.
North by : Borewell Road;
South by : Property bearing No. 241/1, Borewell Road;

From its Owners **Dr. Suneel Mohammed and Mrs. Sherin Mohammed**

Persons having any right over the said property may lodge their objections / claims with documentary evidence within **7 days** from the date of this publication, to the undersigned

Geetha Halliyal, Advocate
42 High Street, No.775, 2nd Floor,
100 feet Road, Indiranagar,
Bangalore-560038, Ph:9980519476
Bangalore Date: 30.09.2023

NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY G20

OPEN E-TENDER NOTICE (Two Packet System)

Dy. Chief Engineer (Construction)-III, North Western Railway, Jaipur for and on behalf of the President of India invites Open E-Tender two stage reverse auction. Tenderer shall on-line submit their original/revised offer before the date and time of closing of E-tender. **E-Tender Notice No.:** NWR-SC-KWP-Civil-13641931-R1, **Name of work with location:** Composite Works (Civil, Electrical, S&T, Mechanical) involving construction of Industrial sheds, other ancillary buildings, pit line. Track works, Drainage system. Electrification and illumination works, Procurement and commissioning of specified Mechanical Machineries & Plant (EOT crane etc.) & other miscellaneous works in connection with developing new coach care complex at Khatipura (Phase-II). **Approximate cost of work:** Rs. 125,55,07,151.49, **Earnest Money to be deposited:** Rs. 64,27,600.00, **Completion Period:**18 (Eighteen) months, **Closing Date & Time of submission of online E-tender:** 15.00 Hrs. on 19.10.2023, **Pre bid Meeting date, time and place:** 29.09.2023 at 11.15 hrs, Conference hall in Rail Nirman Bhawan, Near Jagatpura Railway Phatak, Jagatpura Jaipur-302017, **Website particulars where complete details of E-Tender can be seen:** www.ireps.gov.in. Note:-No manual tender will be accepted. Related quarries will be accepted till 15.00 hrs on 30.09.2023. 1044-PR/23

Follow us at /NWRailways NWRailways_

PUBLIC NOTICE

The general/public at large are hereby notified that my clients **SRI. JAYAKRISHNA P.S** S/o late Subraya P.K and **SMT.SHUBHA KUMARI.K** W/o Sri.Jayakrishna P.S, Residing at No.159, 29th Main. 8th Cross, B.T.M Layout, 2nd Stage, Bangalore-560076, intends to purchase the Schedule property from its owner **SRI.V.PRUTHVI YADAV** S/o late R.V.Vasanth Kumar, Residing at No.2/3, 4th cross, 1st Main, Govindaraja Nagar, Vijayanagar, Bangalore 560040. Any Person/s institution / authority having any objection and bar or claim, rights, title or interest in the Schedule property may lodge his/her/their/its objection or claim with the undersigned along with supporting documentary evidence within **10 days** from the date of the publication of this public notice. If no objections and/or claims are received within the stipulated period my clients would proceed to purchase the Schedule Property.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the Immovable property agricultural land comprised in survey **No. 90/1** extending over **1 Acre 32 Guntas,** assessed at Rs. 2.65, situated at **Thokasandra Village, Maralawadi Hobli, Kanakapura Taluk,** Ramanagara District, bounded on :

East by : Government Road,
West by : Government Halla,
North by : Mill Mari Gowda's land,
South by : C. Narse Gowda's land.

RAVISHANKAR
ADVOCATE,
No.42/1, Appu Rao Road,
Chamarajpet, Bangalore -560018

5th Year Remembrance

Dr. S. Adeep
05-06-1989 - 01-10-2018
Those we love don't go away,
they walk beside us everyday.
Family Members

PIONEER CORPS TRAINING CENTRE,
BANASWADI MILITARY GARRISON - 560 033
ALLOTMENT OF REGIMENTAL SHOP

(a) Sealed tenders are invited from interested War Widows /Widows of defence personnel killed while on duty /Disabled Soldier / Ex-Servicemen & Spouse /Widow of Ex-servicemen subject to license period of one year (extendable upto five years) with a three years cooling off / break period for running of Regimental Shop at Pioneer Corps Training Centre, Banaswadi Military Garrison, Bangalore-33.

Ser No	Name of Shop	No of Shops	EMD
(a)	Regt Shop, PCTC (Wet Canteen)	One	2000/-

(b) Application forms including terms and conditions for running of above mentioned Regimental Shops can be obtained from Accounts Branch of Pioneer Corps Training Centre at the cost of Rs 10/- (Rupees ten only) each, upto five working days prior to last date of submission of application form:-

(i) Collection of Application Form - 0900hrs to 1400hrs upto 07 Oct 2023 (Interested parties can go around the shop on prior permission from authority before date of submission of application form).

(ii) Last date of submission of Application Form - To reach by 1000hrs on 15 Oct 2023.

(c) The application will be enfaced with "Application for Allotment of Regimental Shop" on the envelop.

The application shall be submitted to:-

Presiding Officer
Pioneer Corps Training Centre
Banaswadi Military Garrison
Near Ayyeppa Temple
Bangalore – 560 033

BANARAS LOCOMOTIVE WORKS, VARANASI-221004

Bid no. E-64/2023-2024 **E-TENDERS** **Date: 26.09.2023**

E-Tender are invited for & on behalf of the President of India for the supply of following items. Only e-offer will be accepted for which vender must have Class III Digital Signature and registrations on IREPS. The details of tenders are in the following sequence **S. No:-Tender No. (Due Date). Description and quantity: 1.** 09221399A, (10.11.2023), Circuit Module-HVRECPT, to PL No. 18120180, 05 Nos., **2.** 09221385A, (10.11.2023), Contact Assembly, to PL No. 18140233, 30 Nos., **3.** 09231223A, (10.11.2023), Switch Limit, to PL No. 18310680, 60 Nos., **4.** 09221312A, (14.11.2023), Sleeve Bearing, to PL No. 18021670, 25 Nos., **5.** 09231255, (15.11.2023), 3 Phase Induction Traction Motor, to PL No. 18080017, 11 Nos., **6.** 09221018D, (20.11.2023), Reactor Copper Winding, to PL No. 18400024, 04 Nos., **7.** 09231286, (20.11.2023), AC-AC Traction Control System, to PL No. 18000976, 01 Nos., **8.** 09221402A, (20.11.2023), Circuit Module-COM 304, to PL No. 18120817, 30 Nos., **9.** 09221395A (20.11.2023), Panel Module-TLF 301, to PL No. 18120118, 10 Nos., **10.** 09221390A, (22.11.2023), Circuit Module-PSM 300, to PL No. 18120039, 21 Nos., **11.** 09221054D, (22.11.2023), Contact ASM Movable, to PL No. 18351580, 206 Nos., **12.** 09221397A, (22.11.2023), Display ASM, to PL No. 18120155, 08 Nos. **13.** 09231180, (23.11.2023), Cap Radar Lens, to PL No. 18030210, 739 Nos., **14.** 09221388A, (23.11.2023), Ind. Light-Switch Panel ASM, to PL No. 18000162, 602 Nos., **15.** 09231112, (23.11.2023), Stator and Coil ASM, to PL No. 18100259, 28 Nos., **16.** 09221383A, (24.11.2023), Contact ASM Post Stationary, to PL No. 18450015, 149 Nos., **17.** 09221391A, (24.11.2023), Circuit Module-PSM 310, to PL No. 18120040, 23 Nos., **18.** 09221392A, (28.11.2023), Circuit Module-PSM 320, to PL No. 18120052, 13 Nos., **19.** 09221389A, (28.11.2023), Circuit Module-FCD 300, to PL No. 18120027, 13 Nos., **20.** 09221393A, (29.11.2023), Panel Module-FCF 301, to PL No. 18120076, 16 Nos., **21.** 09221051C, (29.11.2023), Switch-Push Button, to PL No. 18310199, 459 Nos., **22.** 10231312, (01.11.2023), Exhaust Chamber Assembly Front, to PL No. 16360163, 24 Nos. **23.** E-RA (Double Bid System) T. No. 10221616A, (25.10.2023), Steel Crankshaft, to PL No. 16140163, 40 Nos. **Note:** The details of above tenders are available on **www.blw.indianrailways.gov.in** and **www.ireps.gov.in.**

P.R./BLW/S-69 **Senior Material Manager**

/blwvaranasi "वेबसाईट :- blw.indianrailways.gov.in"

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
RCD, ROAD DIVISION, JAMSHEDPUR, JHARKHAND

e-Procurement Notice (2nd Call)
For National Competitive Bidding

Short e-Tender Reference No. RCD/JAMSHEDPUR/1518 Date 30.09.2023

1.	Name of the work	Construction of H.L. Bridge at 29th km over Baranala in Baliguma Sukhana Basti (Barhi - Jamshedpur - Bahragora) Road (Span 3 x 10.6 m) including approach Road for the year 2023-24.
2.	Estimated Cost of Work (in INR)	Rs 3,34,89,500.00 (Rupees Three Crore Thirty four Lakh eighty nine Thousand five Hundred Only).
3.	Initial Bid Security (Rs In Lacs)	Rs 3,35,000 (Rupees Three Lakh thirty Five Thousand Only).
4.	Initial Bid Security in the shape of	Bank Guarantee valid for minimum 45 days beyond the Bid validity period of 120 days in the shape of 5 Yr NSC/ 3 or 5 Yr FD issued by any Indian Post offices/ 3 or 5 Yr FD issued by any Nationalized/Scheduled Bank.
5.	Time of Completion	Twelve Months.
6.	Date of Publication of Tender on website	03.10.2023 at 10.30 A.M.
7.	Start date of bidding	03.10.2023 from 10.30 AM
8.	Last date & Time for online bidding	17.10.2023 up to 02.00 P.M.
09.	Type of Bid	Two envelope mode (Technical and Financial Bid)
10.	Last date & time for receipt of Bid Security and other documents in hard	19.10.2023 upto 12.00 noon either by Speed post or by hand.
11.	Place of depositing the receipt of Bid Security, Cost of Bid and other documents in hard form	e-Procurement cell, Office of The Chief Engineer (Comm), RCD, Jharkhand, 1st Floor, Engineer's Hostel No. 2, Near Dhurwa Golchakkar, Ranchi
12.	Date & time for opening of Technical Bid	19.10.2023 at 3.30 PM by , e-Procurement cell, Office of The Chief Engineer (Comm), RCD, Jharkhand, 1st Floor, Engineer's Hostel No. 2, Near Dhurwa Golchakkar, Ranchi
13..	Name & address of office Inviting tender	Executive Engineer, RCD, Road Division, Jamshedpur, Road No.- 1, CH Area.
14.	Contact no. of Procurement officer	0657-2227724
15.	Helpline number of e-Procurement cell	0651-2401010

Further details can be seen on website http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in

Informations written above are tentative/indicative. Details NIT and other details can be seen on tender portal which will be final and binding subject to corrigendum, if any required.

Executive Engineer
RCD, Road Division, Jamshedpur

PR 308066Road(23-24)#D

Classifieds

LIFE MADE SIMPLE — THE HINDU

SITUATIONS VACANT

GENERAL

P&C Projects Pvt Ltd
Bharathi Salai, Mogapair West, Chennai-37

WANTED

1.PROJECT MANAGERS
2.CONSTRUCTION MANAGERS
3.PROJECT ENGINEERS
4.SITE ENGINEERS
5.ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS / ELECTRCIANS
6.MECHANCIAL ENGINEERS/ MECHANICS
7.ACCOUNTS CUM CASHIER
8.STORE MANAGERS & STORE KEEPERS
9.DATA ENTRY OPERATORS
10.TREATMENT PLANT OPERATORES
11.PRO OFFICERS/ ADMIN OFFICERS
12. QS & QC ENGINEERS
13.FORM FABRICATION FOREMAN
14.STEEL FABRICATION FOREMAN
15.CONCRETE & MASON FOREMAN
16.TOTAL STATION SURVEYOR

Project Location: At Madurai Railway Station & At Chennai Sewage Treatment Plants

Email: dsr@pandc.co.in
Whatsapp: 94440 80073

MEDICAL

MEDICAL OFFICER reqd. for Hooghly Cochin Shipyard Limited. For more details visit : www.hooghlycsl.com/Page/hcslcareer. Ph: 033 2955 8283.

TECHNICAL

NEED TESTING&COMMISSIONING Engr (5+yrs exp) Dip/Grad in Electrical Eng.
svcechennai10@gmail.com/9176646501

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SELLING

GENERAL

BSNL HOUSING Society premium residential & commercial sites near Blore Intl Airport on 6 Lane NH-207 Rs1100/-sft, open for general public. Call : 9071534000

GENERAL

LEGAL NOTICE

In The court of The Addl. Sr.Civil Judge: KURNOOL.
O.S.NO. 78/2022

Sri. P. Thirupalu, S/o Pedda Venkata Ramudu, Sub-Inspector of Police. Dornipadu P.S, Nandyal Drstrict. - Plaintiff

-VS-

Sri. E. Mallesh, s/o E. Naganna, H.No. 5-193, polakal (v.) C-Belagal (m), Kurnool (Dt.). present working as Technical assistant at LPSC, Department of space and ISRO, Head Quarters at Anthariksha Bhavan, Near Bell Road, Banglore - Karnataka state. -Defendant

Summons to Defendent

Where The plaintiff filed The above Suit against The defendant for recovery of the Rs. 50,00,000/- Under Dammages and Interest there on at 24%. p.a and for cost. you The. Defendant to be Directed to appear before The court on 10-10-2023 at 10:30 A M. to file your objections if any. Otherwise you will deamed Set· Exparte.

By order of the court.
R.ANANDA RAO
Advocate for plaintiff
Kurnool, A.P. Cell: 9866608118

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A BG-BGE

Ensemble in stone: The Sartanji *choro* (a place for music) was built during the reign of King Sartanji (1757-1813) for use as a concert pavilion. Stone carvings outside depict musicians. At the corners are statues of doorkeepers.

Silent witness: The Old Court in Porbandar.

Eager learners: Students at Victoria Jubilee Madressa Boys and Girls High School, established in 1887.

Hub of knowledge: The Bhavsinhji High School, established in 1904.

Defying age: An elderly resident of a 200-year-old house in Porbandar.

Kolar MP and MLA file complaint and counter-complaint

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A verbal battle between S.N. Narayanaswamy, Member of the Legislative Assembly (MLA) of the ruling Congress, and S. Muniswamy, Member of Parliament (MP) from the BJP, at a public meeting in Kolar last Monday took a legal turn with both of them filing a case, and counter-case against each other with the Gulpet police.

The police have registered two FIRs charging the duo under intentional insult to provoke breach of peace and criminal intimidation on Wednesday and Thursday respectively.

The duo was seen shouting at each other on stage amidst other dignitaries. The meeting was organised to address the grievances of the people affected by an anti-encroachment drive carried out by the Forest Department. The entire incident was recorded and

There was an altercation between S.N. Narayanaswamy, MLA, and S. Muniswamy, MP, during a meeting organised to address the grievances of people

went viral on social media, causing embarrassment to the officials, and Byrathi Suresh, district in-charge Minister. The police had to struggle hard to drag out the enraged MP from the stage. Heated arguments ensued between the MP and the police in the melee.

Balaji R., president of BJP Yuva Morcha in his complaint alleged that Mr. Narayanaswamy hurled abuses and threatened the MP when he was objecting to the drive for allegedly selectively targeting people and sparing influential people. Mr. Narayanaswamy reacted rudely and hurled abuses at the MP and even issued a threat, he alleged.

Mr. Narayanaswamy in his complaint said that the MP had accused him of sitting on stage with the land grabbers to settle the land disputes.

Taking objection, he challenged Mr. Muniswamy to prove his allegations, which led to heated arguments, he said.

The police are gathering the video recording of the programme to initiate investigations. The police will question the officials who were part of the programme to record their versions.

Privilege motion

S. Muniswamy later said that he would submit an application to the Lok Sabha Speaker for moving a privilege motion against the Kolar district Superintendent of Police M. Narayana with regard to Monday's incident at the Janata Darshan.

Office-bearer of Hindutva outfit in Davangere arrested for writing threat letters to Kannada writers

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The person who was allegedly writing threat letters to several writers in the State from April 2022 has finally been arrested.

Sleuths of the Central Crime Branch (CCB), which has been entrusted with the probe into the case recently, arrested Shivaji Rao Jadhav, 41, from Davanagere. The arrested is the co-convenor of a Hindutva outfit for the Davangere district. A class 8 dropout, he works at a printing press. He has two previous cases, including a molestation case, and a preventive arrest.

"We have concrete evidence that it is the same individual who has written all the threat letters to writers," B. Dayananda, Bengaluru Police Commissioner, said. Sources said an earlier investigation, which zeroed in on the wrong person in May 2023, had mounted CCTV surveillance at many post boxes from which these threat letters were posted across four districts. The accused was identified from this surveillance footage, sources said.He has been arrested and taken into 13 days police custody. "The accused has confessed to us in custody that he wrote all those threat letters to writers and claimed he wrote them those letters as he considered them to be "anti-Hindu". He also claimed most of these writers who were speaking against "Hindu Dharma" had stopped doing so following his letter campaign," a senior official involved in the probe said. Several writers – including Kum. Veerabhadrappa, Banjagere Jayaprakash, Vasundhara Bhupati, B.T. Lalitha Nayak, and B.L. Venu – had been receiving letters from April 2022 threatening to kill them. All the letters had the same handwriting and were signed "Sahishnu Hindu". They threatened to kill 61 writers, signatories to an open letter to then Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai demanding he put a break to the relentless communal campaign in the State in 2022. Following a report in *The Hindu* on police inaction over threat letters on July 12, 2022, the BJP government appointed Superintendent of Police, Ramanagara, as the nodal officer for the probe. This investigation mounted surveillance and did much groundwork, but ended up detaining the wrong person in May 2023, evident in how threat letters continued with appeals to release the detainee. As writers approached the State government again seeking fresh probe, it was handed over to CCB, Bengaluru on August 24, 2023.

'A habitual threat letter writer'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Bengaluru police said the accused who was allegedly writing threat letters to several writers in the State from April 2022 claimed to have written threat letters to several other writers as well before this campaign. "In custody, the accused has claimed he started writing threat letters to liberal writers as far back as 2008, with a letter to U.R. Ananthamurthy. He claims to have written several threat letters since then to writers including Prof. K.S. Bhagwan and S.G. Siddaramaiah," a senior official said.

However, the accused's confession in police custody is not admissible in court as evidence. "We have corroborative evidence as his mobile tower locations have been matched with the date and place of these letters being posted. We have CCTV footage, and the biggest evidence will be the handwritten letters. We have collected his accepted writing samples which will be forensically matched with the letters," a senior official said.

Bengaluru City Police Commissioner Mr. Dayananda said the probe was on to ascertain whether he was a lone-wolf acting out alone or there were others involved in this threat letter campaign. "Whether there were any plans to act out on his threats, whether he had such capability is also under probe," he said. His associations with organisations and individuals are being probed, sources said. Writer Kum. Veerabhadrappa, who has received 19 threat letters from "Sahishnu Hindu," said he was happy. "Though I had not taken his letters seriously, my family members were really scared. His arrest has brought some relief to them. The State government has kept its word and apprehended him at the earliest. Now writers feel a bit safe under this regime," he said.

Meanwhile, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah said on social media that the government would take the case to its logical conclusion. "Our government is committed to upholding the freedom of expression of everyone. We have zero tolerance towards any forces that try to silence propeople voices," he posted on social media on Saturday.

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PARENTS SEEKS CSI Doctor/ PG studying Doctor/ Vellore based proffessional to their Daughter 27, CSI Nadar, MD PG studying at Vellore. Contact: 9884652277

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MUSLIM, SUNNI, Tamil, 24, ICWA, Pious, Looking for Religious, CA/ ICWA/MBA Groom. Contact : 8148191605.

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HINDU 27.04.1992 Working as an Asst.Prof (HOD, Dr) in University Chennai, Seeks working groom 9443118355

TAMIL VISWAKARMA. 33/150.Veg. Ayilyam/ Wheatish/ Finance/ Bangalore. Seeks Groom@T.N/B'lore. 99524 85069.

HINDU NADAR, Doctor, Anesthesiologist, 1994/ 152cm/ Uthradam/ Seeks Doctor/ Engineer/ Professionals/ CNB. Contact / Whatsapp: 9840772648

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AGE 28, B.Com., 164cm, Divorce, Groom wanted 1st, 2nd Marriage OK. Contact: Amaidhas Nadar 7200435192

PILLAI / MUDALIAR 36 fair Hastham MCA Well settled Chennai Seeks 37–40 Prof Quaf Working Groom 8220757159

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ISAI VELLALAR 24/155/B.com Nationalized Bank Cashier Avittam Magaram 35K.pm seeks Pillai/Mudaliar Bank/Government staff, Engineers, Teachers. Ct 8939338254 WhatsApp 9629614249

PILLAI / MUDALIAR, 34, MD, Well Settled family seeks Groom aged 34-36 yrs, Engineer/ Business/ Doctor. Contact: 9345855735

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(F)–THEVAR (M)–MUDALIAR 27/156 MBBS Revathy, Meenam Seek Suitable Professional OBC, BC, FC. 9444490554

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hariharan.gce@gmail.com

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MUDALIAR (CNB) : 26/Handsome, MBBS (Australia), Registrar in Westmead Hospital, Australia, Elite Family, Australian citizen, Seeks Bride – willing to relocate Sydney,– 7338945368, +971545923325

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CHETTIAR, 26, 170 cms, MBA. Lives in Chennai. Father is a working professional. Family is financially well off. Looking for an affable match from similar community. Contact: 6366448344

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HINDU VISWAKARMA 31/155 MS PhD settled in Newyork seeks suitable bride TN/Kerala working studying in USA.CNB.Contact 7200771188

SAURASTRA

SAURASTRA, 37, MBA, Pvt. Manager, 1.15L PM, Hastam, Kanni, Chennai – 63, Seeks CNB (veg) Bride 9381725577

TAMIL

CHRISTIAN NADAR. 28, 170cm, MBBS, Ms, Handsome Boy, Seeks Suitable Bride. Ch / Any district : 7824023030

RC CHRISTIAN, 41yrs/170, B.E Software Engineer, Chennai, never married, caste no bar, CT–9500188067

SEEKING EDUCATED Bride for our Son Muslim (Tamil) 37/180 Divorcee Engineer Working in Gulf. Child with Mother. 99408 71319

HINDU 32 /170/ BE/ SWE/ Sc / Ayilam –Katagam /Affluent family/ Bangalore–Settled. Seeks Bride from educated family. Con 9845401461

BE, MBA, 42, Cyber security, IT, Chennai Tamil boy seeks Good character Girl for his 1st Mrg: 9742033888

HINDU, 42 years, French National, settled in Bengaluru, Software Engineer, leagally divorced needs bride. Call : 94420 69718

TAMIL

HINDU NADAR, 35/175, MDS, Elite Family, Divorcee, Seeks Suitable Bride. Contact: 9380791999/ 9047192999

RC NADAR, 25/172, BE, Elite Family, Rich, Monthly Income 20Lakhs Seeks Suitable Bride Contact: 9380791999

AGAMUDAYA MUDALIYAR, Divorced, 41 Mirugasiridam PhD TN Govt Job Rs 1.25 LP/M, Slim. NoBrokers: 7904550883

HINDU NADAR, 28/180cm, BE, 1Lac/ pm, Seeks Suitable Bride Contact: KA Raman Nadar 9380791999/ 9047192999

MUDALIAR, PHD, College Professor, Divorcee,50, seeks Graduate/PG Widow/Divorcee without Child (age 40–45), FC/OBC, No Expectation 9677041894

DEVENDRAKULA VELLALAR Karthigai 28/164 BE Jr. Engineer (Southern Railways) 70000 PM Seeks Suitable Employed Girl. 9443764038

HINDU DKV Pallan Age 41/167cm Manager Nationalised Bank, Salary Rs.14 Lakhs PA, wanted Suitable Bride. Ct: 99652 11259.

VANNIYAKULA Kshatriya 41/173, Bachelor, Diploma in Automobile Engr, Asst Manager, B'lore seeks same caste bride. Ct: 09886322900

MUDALIYAR AGE 44, Well Settled Groom, Seeks Well Settled Individual Bride, Broad Minded. Age, Caste No Bar. Contact : 8838225041

EX AIRFORCE Age 69 needs life partner widows divorced caste religion no bar. Contact: 9283111999

Viswakarma 29 M.Tech Magam SWE Bangalore 32Lac p.a seeks educated working Bride with good family back ground caste no bar. CT: 9444302810.

HINDU– SOWRASHTRA community, looking for a bride for my brother Vinay Kumar, Age: 35, 5ft 7inch, Bachelor degree, Kotak Bank, Salary: 15L, Bangalore. Contact: 9884563542

TAMIL

HINDU Udayar 45 yrs, MCA Divorcee Job in Singapore Bank seek Educated bride.Caste no bar. CT: 99949-61320

HINDU NADAR, 27/180cm, BE, 125000, Seeks Suitable Bride. Contact: KA Raman Nadar 9380791999/ 9047192999

VADAKALAI IYENGAR Kowsigam Uthradam–1 June 1993 5ft 11inch Fair BE MS(USA) employed BIG–4 USA H1B Very clean habits traditional family unconsummated innocent divorce within a week seeks suitable Bride. Contact: krvr006@gmail.com Mob: 8925469899.

BRIDE WANTED Elite Mudaliyar, 38yrs, B.Tech, 2Lakhs/pm, Business Family. Contact: 9962791888

Hindu Mudaliyar seeks suitable Bride for Chennai based boy with handsome look, Kind & Passion. Born 1995, 178cm, Pooradam Star, (No Dosham) MS Software Engineering, IT- Working Decent salary. Ph: 99406 64596

MUDHALIAR 37/170, Govt Chennai, Diploma in Electrical, Own House, 2nd Marriage, Seeking Bride from Decent Family. Caste No Bar. 9500100192.

NAIDU 1994 born 186 cm BE MBA. Pilot with Indigo seeks fair educated Bride. Ct: 95000 57987, 74284 47958

VELLALAR 33yrs Govt. Employed 1.5 Lakh per month Issueless Divorcee seeks unmarried girl. Ct: 9043544397

YADHAVA TAMIL only B.Tech SR Data Scientist Chennai 25L/pa. Pooradam 05.12.94 / 165 / Fair / UPC. Seeks Brides as SWE other professional Horoscope doesn't Matter. 9840494566

32 YEAR old Vellalah Doctor Groom hailing from Nagercoil from Affluent Family is looking for a Non Doctor Graduate or Postgraduate Girl from the same or different community. The Groom is Fair, Handsome with clean habits and disciplined has a small birth defect in leg. The defect is compatible with normal walking. Only alliances willing to accept can call 9443131366.

AGE 35, Handsome, Affluent Groom wants Bride with 10Crore Asset. Marriage, Remarriage, Divorce 7401489892

A WELL Settled Healthy Hindu 57 Separated seeks Elite Broad Minded Independent Women above 45 as Companion & Soulmate No bar 7397087032

WANTED Suitable bride, young widow acceptable for Chathriya 50yrs Bachelor, B.A, having stationery store, Pondicherry. CNB. Cont: 8015362636

37 YEARS (MSc Nursing) Kongu vellala Gounder male nurse working at Kuwait seeks suitable bride. No restriction. sen1042@gmail.com

VISWAKARMA, 37, MA, Journalist, 6 Lakh PA seeks Good Looking & Educated Bride.Caste no bar. 7401297233

DOCTOR, M.D, D.M., 44/ 165, SC/ AD Working in a Pvt Hospital issueless Divorcee seeks first marriage bride below 35 Yrs, any degree from the same caste or caste no bar contact 9445205446

MUDALIAR 28/182 Handsome,BE,SWE, Zoho,Chennai,1500000.PA,Well settled Family, CNB. 7299576644, 7299576666

HINDU, KONGU VELLALA Gounder, Divorcee 39, 5'11", Swathi, Degree, own Business, Property in Tiruppur. Upper middle class. Suitable girl Any Degree & Any Caste in BC. Whatsapp: 98436-72605.

TAMIL

VANNIYAR, 30/172CM/ Swathi/ Fair, MS, USA Employed seeks Educated suitable Bride. Contact: 9444678830.

AGAMUDAYAR, B.E., 30yrs, 172cm, Pooradam, Fair, Software Engineer, 31 Lakhs PA seeks SWE/ BE/ Dr Bride. Ph: 8508099103, 6382086919

HINDU MARAVAR, 29/174, B.Com., M.B.A., Fair, Handsome, only son. Upper Middle Class seeks suitable Bride. Mukkulathor Preferable. Caste No Bar. Ct. 94434 24757

KAMMA TELUGU, 35/177, B.Tech, Business, 20 - 35 lakhs per Annum, well settled seeks Doctor, Software Engineering Bride. Watsapp: 84289 37163/ gasl1@rediffmail.com

WELL ESTABLISHED Chennai Based Business Family invites suitable Bride for their MBA qualified Self employed only son. 5'11 Tall and Handsome.Divorcee, Issueless, Caste No Bar. Ct.9710605625

MAYAVARAM SAIVA Pillai, Hindu, 19.12.1977, 170cm, DME, Revathi, Meena rasi, working in Saudi Arabia, Raghu & Kethu, Seeking suitable Veg Bride/Girl, Brokers Excuse. 09845256561. sudharbindhu@gmail.com

BRIDE WANTED Hindu Nadar 26/175 BE MS USA MonthlyIncome 6L Elite Family RAMAN NADAR 9380791999/ 9047192999

✔ PILLAI(KARUNEEGAR), DOB:24–01–92, BE, Veg, Job: MNC (Software) Chennai, Annual Income: 25 lakhs. Seeking a suitable bride from the same or any other community. Ph: 9841784047 Email: pingme.arul@gmail.com.

BRAHMIN, 42, Sr. Project Manager Kalpita Technologies Bengaluru seeks any Brahmin Girl. Ph: 9487851429

IYENGAR VADHOOLA / VADAKALAI 37yrs, Doctorate in Management, Pvt Institute, Puducherry, Seeks Bride from any Hindu Brahmin (Subsect no bar) Ct: 9944369225 / 0413-4069565

TAMIL IYER Boy 34/165 cm, Kasyapa / Poosam, Settled in US (Citizen) seeks US based Bride. Ct. 9381330019

VADAGALAI IYENGAR 30,172, MBA, kasibha,Kirthigai, Working SBI Seeks suitable bride 9952903382/ 9790742346

BRIDE WANTED
Hindu Nadar - 30 /173cm Masters from IIT-Working in an esteemed position in Chennai, from an affluent family - seeks suitable Bride of the age limit 23-27 from a similar family. Caste no bar.
Contact : 9444085135

BRIDES WANTED
Hindu, Doctor, affluent, handsome, divorcee, 47/180cm, Mudaliar, Currently working in Singapore, seeks suitable alliance. Caste No Bar
Contact or Whatsapp
96000 10420
drakpchennai@gmail.com

TAMIL

BRAHMIN IYER VADULAM Uthiram Nov 1977 BSc(MCA)MNC, IT 24Lakh PA Seeks unmarried Brahmin Girl 9841071359

Vaniyakula Kshatriya anusam 35/177 BTech(NIT) MS(USA)workng California seeks equally Qulfd Bride.9940469265

Gavarai Naidu, 30/173cms, Avittam, Kumbam, Master of Physiotherapy, working in National Health Service NHS, England. Seeks Educated Bride. Contact: 72002 23066 / 80562 04841.

HINDU Thuluvavellala Mudaliar 33yrs MBA, Asst.Mngr in Chennai,vegetarian legally Divorced seeks Edu. Girl from a well settled family. CNB. 82484 23389.

HINDU YADAVA, 57, Govt.Employee, Widower, Vegetarian seeks suitable Vegetarian Bride or Widow. Caste No Bar. Send Biodata to 9443157353

IYER SMARTHA Brahmins 27/ 157, Moola, Dhanur, Vashista, Fair, B.Tech., Sr.SWE Chennai seeks professionally qualified IT Bride. Ct: 7397061997

Looks Young - Unmarried Pattinavar 48/165, BA, Employed Chennai Seeks Unmarried Bride. Ct: 97899 19113.

TELUGU

GAVARA NAIDU, Pooradam, 26/173 B.E., MNC, 12L PA, Very Fair seeks suitable Bride. Ct: 88703 80440

BALIJA 29/180 cms, Magam, Simma Raasi /BE/ M.S (Ger) working in Germany 51Lpa. Financially Sound. Seeks Suitable Qualified Bride–Sub Sects No Bar. Ct: 9442623203 / 9442838203

GOOD LOOKING well educated Kamma 39yrs, Businessman earning 3.3L PM Net worth above 20 Crore, Financially Sound. Seeks CNB, any qualification no expectation 7200312020

A WELL settled naidu family seeks suitable bride for their fair boy (B.E. / SWE / 12 lakh pa / 43 y / legally divorced) caste no bar. Call : 97907 23821/ 77950 77750

Telegu Boyar 49/170cm, Widower, No Issue seeks bride below 37- 43yrs, any degree CNB 9444950542/9940110818

URDU

URDU SUNNI Muslim Retd Commercial Tax Officer/ Widower/ 70 yrs / respectable & well settled family in Chennai seeks suitable pious bride/ widow/divorcee. Contact/ WhatsApp: 9840257587

BRIDES & GROOMS WANTED

COSMOPOLITAN

Cultured well to do Parents - Own Buz-Mumbai, Karnataka, Agri Farms, Own Houses Invite Alliance 1) For only Son aged about 47/179 Cm. Wheat Complexion, Aridra-II Bharadwaj, With good health Civil Engr./Practg. Architect (Mumbai H.Q) from any resp. Iyengar / South Indian - Never Married Bhrahmin Girls upto 38 - (R.P.A). No expectation early marriage. 2)Their Beautiful Daughter 36 P. Phalaguni / 170 Cm. Double Graduate / Karnataka Music. Well versed in H /hold works early good Marriage. Send curriculum vitae with Photo : irtpl@hotmail.com. Ph: 9820035704/9167136877.

MARRIAGE BUREAU

USA UK Europe All Caste Religion 1st Marriage Remarriage. Ct:8248757840

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Deadline to submit KSET application extended

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Karnataka Examination Authority has extended the date for submission of online application for Karnataka State Eligibility Test (KSET) for the post of assistant professor from October 3 to of October 9.

The detailed notification, syllabus and application link are available on the KEA website.

Timings
BENGALURU

SUNDAY, OCT. 01	
RISE 06:09	SET 18:10
RISE 19:46	SET 07:45
MONDAY, OCT. 02	
RISE 06:09	SET 18:09
RISE 20:32	SET 08:43
TUESDAY, OCT. 03	
RISE 06:09	SET 18:08
RISE 21:22	SET 09:42

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	31	24
Mysuru	30	23
Bengaluru	27	20

Bengaluru Today
29°C Morning will be pleasant. Day will be slight warm and humid. Night will be pleasant. Spell of light to moderate rain and thundershower to occur.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
30°C The weather will be slight warm and humid.Night will be pleasant.Chances of light rain and thundershower at few places.

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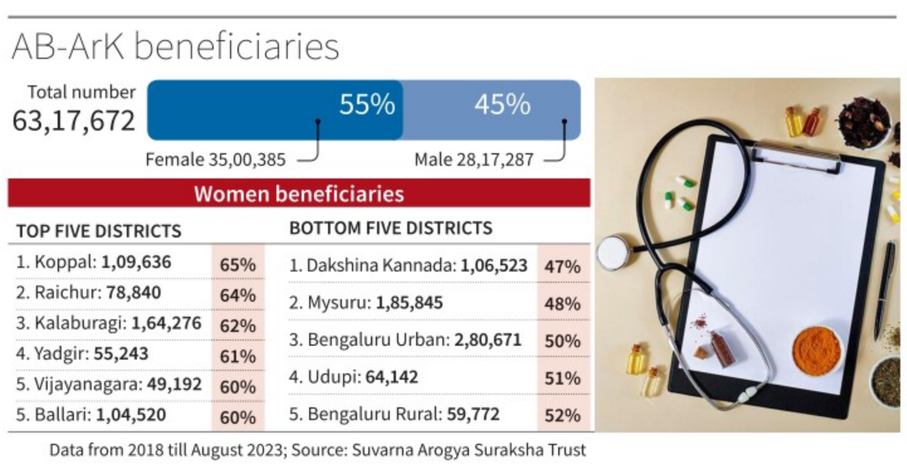
AB-ArK: State tops in treating most women beneficiaries

While the national average of women beneficiaries under the scheme is 48%, Karnataka's coverage is 55%, the highest in the country among large States

Afshan Yasmeen
BENGALURU



Since its inception in 2018 till August, 2023, Karnataka has treated 35 lakh women (55%) of the total 63.17 lakh beneficiaries under Ayushman Bharat Arogya Karnataka (AB-ArK) health scheme. This is the highest in the country and Karnataka has been presented with the Gender Equity in service delivery (among large States) award by the National Health Authority recently.

An analysis of data collated by Suvarna Arogya Suraksha Trust (SAST), the nodal agency that implements the State's health schemes, revealed that caesarean delivery, conventional tubectomy, acute febrile illness, acute gastroenteritis with moderate dehydration and severe anaemia are the top five ailments/ procedures that women sought treatment for.

Far above average

While the national average of women beneficiaries under the scheme is 48%, Karnataka's coverage is 55%, the highest in the country among large States.

State Health Commissioner Randeep D. said the figures indicate that the services are provided to beneficiaries without any gender disparity. "We have also been recognised for the highest percentage of utilisation in public hospitals (among large States). Besides, with 3,472 (government 2,942 and private 530) hospitals, Karnataka also has the highest number of Empanelled Health Care Providers (EHCPs) under the scheme among large States.

"Karnataka is the only State with a nearly equal contribution from the public and private sectors, demonstrating the effectiveness of the State's public health system," the Commissioner told *The Hindu*.

The recognition awards were presented during the two-day Arogya Manthan in New Delhi on September 25.

North Karnataka

Since inception, 55.98 lakh cases have been treated in government hospitals and 7.19 lakh cases in private facilities. The highest number of female beneficiaries under the scheme are from the backward districts of North Karnataka - Koppal, Raichur, Kalaburgi, Yadgir and Vijayanagara, where the access to private facilities is limited.

Districts such as Dakshina Kannada, Mysuru, Bengaluru Urban, Udupi, and Bengaluru Rural have the least women beneficiaries under the scheme as these districts have a large network of private hospitals.

Scheme utilisation

The State has also been appreciated for full utilisation of allocated funds. Over the years, the scheme utilisation has increased steadily.

"The central share is 36% and the State contributes 64% of the share for inclusion of all BPL families of non-Socio Economic and Caste Census database and APL families. From 67,776 beneficiaries in 2018, the number has gone up to 21,94,061 in 2022-2023.

This year till August, the number of beneficiaries has already touched 13,38,567. In total, 63.17 lakh cases have been treated under the scheme in the last five years," the commissioner said.

SAST Executive Director Vinoth Priya said the State has made several efforts to encourage public facilities in providing services such as ring fencing mechanism (no direct walk in to private hospitals except for 171 emergency procedures), online referral system through government facilities, involving Primary Health Centres (PHCs) to provide simple service packages and deemed empanelment of government facilities.

Excavations at Talakad show habitation during Neolithic Age

The Hindu Bureau
MYSURU

The excavations at Talakad in Mysuru district not only helped push back the antiquity and the history of the region by several hundred years, but enabled scholars to provide scientific evidence for emergence of sand dunes.

Talakad on the banks of the Cauvery is a delight of archaeologists and the history of the region spans from the days of the Western Gangas, who ruled from the 4th to 10th centuries CE down to the modern times of the Wadiyars.

But the excavations conducted by the State Department of Archaeology Museums and Heritage since the 1990s and more recently a few years ago, yielded evidence that there existed a culture and human habitation during the Neolithic Age which translates to around 2000 BCE.

This was stated by S. Krishnamurthy, former dean and head of the Department of History and Archaeology, University of Mysore and who was involved in the Talakad excavations. He was delivering the monthly talk at the Department of Archaeology Museums and Heritage in the city on Saturday. Students from various colleges, assistant director of the Department of Archaeology Museums and Heritage C.N. Manjula, and others were present.

Traffic snarls at multiple places in city

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Traffic woes continued in Bengaluru on Saturday as bumper-to-bumper traffic and minor congestion were reported on various major roads, including J. C. Road, Ballari Road, Palace Road, and Old Madras Road. Although most roads were relatively empty in the morning, the volume of vehicles increased by afternoon, and traffic snarls continued well into the evening.

"For some reason, access to Kumara Krupa Road from Ballari Road was blocked by the traffic police and the buses going towards Shivananda Circle changed their routes and went all the way to Majestic via Vidhana Soudha. The traffic near Kumara Krupa road was worse than usual," said Priyanka K., a regular commuter.

Similarly, many commuters reported about getting stuck near Esteem Mall and Hebbal flyover for over 30 minutes in the afternoon. "While such traffic is common during peak hours, it was unexpected in the afternoon. It took me around 45 minutes to go from Jakkur to the CBI office," said Ravish T., a resident of Yelahanka.

Even in South Bengaluru, traffic snarls were found in parts of Basavanagudi and K.R. Market. "The commute from Basavanagudi takes me just 15 to 20 minutes even in peak hours. But on Saturday evening, it took me 90 minutes and I had to change my regular route and go via K.R. Market and Majestic to avoid traffic on J.C. Road," said Malini M., resident of Basavanagudi.

However, M. N. Anucheth, Joint Commissioner of Police (Traffic), Bengaluru said that it was usual Saturday traffic.

॥ ಓಂ ಶ್ರೀ ಮಂಜುನಾಥಾಯ ನಮಃ ॥

ಶ್ರೀ ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರ ಧರ್ಮಸ್ಥಳ ಗ್ರಾಮಾಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಯೋಜನೆ (ರಿ.) ಧರ್ಮಸ್ಥಳ
ಅಖಿಲ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಜನಜಾಗೃತಿ ವೇದಿಕೆ ಟ್ರಸ್ಟ್ (ರಿ.) ಧರ್ಮಸ್ಥಳ

ರಾಜ್ಯದ ಜನತೆಗೆ 154ನೇ ವರ್ಷದ ಗಾಂಧಿ ಜಯಂತಿಯ ಶುಭಾಶಯಗಳು

- ಮಹಾತ್ಮಾ ಗಾಂಧೀಜಿಯವರ ಮದ್ಯಮುಕ್ತ ಸಮಾಜ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣದ ಕನಸನ್ನು ಧರ್ಮಸ್ಥಳದ ಡಾ.ಡಿ.ವೀರೇಂದ್ರ ಹೆಗ್ಗಡೆಯವರ ಮುಂದಾಳತ್ವದಲ್ಲಿ ಅಖಿಲ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಜನಜಾಗೃತಿ ವೇದಿಕೆಯು ನನಸು ಮಾಡುವಲ್ಲಿ ಶ್ರಮಿಸುತ್ತಿದೆ.
- ಇದುವರೆಗೆ 1,723 ಮದ್ಯವರ್ಜನ ಶಿಬಿರಗಳ ಮುಖಾಂತರ 1.50 ಲಕ್ಷ ಮದ್ಯವ್ಯಸನಿಗಳನ್ನು ಮದ್ಯಮುಕ್ತರನ್ನಾಗಿ ಮಾಡಲಾಗಿದೆ.
- ಸ್ವಸ್ಥ ಸಮಾಜ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣಕ್ಕಾಗಿ 36 ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ವೇದಿಕೆಗಳ ಮುಖಾಂತರ 10,000ಕ್ಕೂ ಮಿಕ್ಕಿದ ಕಾರ್ಯಕಾರಿ ಮಂಡಳಿಯ ಸದಸ್ಯರು ಅವಿರತವಾಗಿ ತೊಡಗಿಸಿಕೊಂಡಿದ್ದಾರೆ.
- ಕಳೆದೊಂದು ದಶಕದಲ್ಲಿ 15,000ಕ್ಕೂ ಮಿಕ್ಕಿದ ಸ್ವಾಸ್ಥ್ಯ ಸಂಕಲ್ಪ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮಗಳ ಮುಖೇನ 13 ಲಕ್ಷ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಮಾದಕ ವಸ್ತುಗಳ ಕುರಿತು ಜಾಗೃತಿ ನೀಡಲಾಗಿದೆ.
- ಧರ್ಮಸ್ಥಳದ ಬಳಿಯ ಉಜಿರೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಶ್ರೀ ಧರ್ಮಸ್ಥಳ ಮಂಜುನಾಥೇಶ್ವರ ವ್ಯಸನಮುಕ್ತಿ ಮತ್ತು ಸಂಶೋಧನ ಕೇಂದ್ರವನ್ನು ತೆರೆಯಲಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಸಂಶೋಧನೆಗಳನ್ನು ಕೈಗೊಳ್ಳಲಾಗುತ್ತಿದೆ.
- ರಾಜ್ಯಾದ್ಯಂತ ಮದ್ಯವರ್ಜನ ಶಿಬಿರಗಳನ್ನು ನಡೆಸಲಾಗುತ್ತಿದೆ.

ಜನಜಾಗೃತಿ ವೇದಿಕೆಯ ವತಿಯಿಂದ ರಾಜ್ಯಾದ್ಯಂತ ಅಕ್ಟೋಬರ್ ತಿಂಗಳಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಗಾಂಧಿಸ್ಮೃತಿ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮಗಳನ್ನು ಕೆಳಗಿನಂತೆ ನಡೆಸಲಾಗುತ್ತಿದೆ.

ಕ್ರ.ಸಂ	ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ	ದಿನಾಂಕ	ಕ್ರ.ಸಂ	ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ	ದಿನಾಂಕ	ಕ್ರ.ಸಂ	ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ	ದಿನಾಂಕ	ಕ್ರ.ಸಂ.	ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ	ದಿನಾಂಕ
1	ಚಿತ್ತಗಡಿ	02.10.2023	28	ಕೆ.ಆರ್.ಪೇಟೆ	15.10.2023	55	ಶೃಂಗೇರಿ	08.10.2023	82	ತುರುವೆಕೆರೆ	10.10.2023
2	ಸುಳ್ಯ	03.10.2023	29	ಚಾಮರಾಜನಗರ	11.10.2023	56	ತರೀಕೆರೆ	09.10.2023	83	ಶಿರಾ	04.10.2023
3	ಮಂಗಳೂರು	08.10.2023	30	ಹಾವೇರಿ	02.10.2023	57	ಅಜ್ಜಂಪುರ	08.10.2023	84	ಚಿಕ್ಕನಾಯಕನಹಳ್ಳಿ	08.10.2023
4	ಶಿರಸಿ	07.10.2023	31	ಧಾರವಾಡ	10.10.2023	58	ಕಳಸ	02.10.2023	85	ಪಾವಗಡ	06.10.2023
5	ಸೊರಬ	02.10.2023	32	ಬೆಳಗಾವಿ	09.10.2023	59	ಚಿಕ್ಕಮಗಳೂರು	04.10.2023	86	ಕೊರಟಗೆರೆ	05.10.2023
6	ಸಾಗರ	02.10.2023	33	ಬೆಳಗಾವಿ	12.10.2023	60	ಭದ್ರಾವತಿ	09.10.2023	87	ಮಧುಗಿರಿ	10.10.2023
7	ಶಿಕಾರಿಪುರ	15.10.2023	34	ಚಿಕ್ಕೋಡಿ	08.10.2023	61	ಶಿವಮೊಗ್ಗ	07.10.2023	88	ಅಫಜಲಪುರ	08.10.2023
8	ಉಡುಪಿ	06.10.2023	35	ಯರಗಟ್ಟಿ	10.10.2023	62	ತೀರ್ಥಹಳ್ಳಿ	02.10.2023	89	ಆಳಂದ	02.10.2023
9	ಕಾರ್ಕಳ	02.10.2023	36	ಅಥಣಿ	05.10.2023	63	ಹೊಸನಗರ	02.10.2023	90	ಸೇಡಮ್	07.10.2023
10	ಹೆಬ್ರಿ	11.10.2023	37	ಬಳ್ಳಾರಿ	02.10.2023	64	ಜಗಳೂರು	05.10.2023	91	ಕಲಬುರಗಿ	08.10.2023
11	ಕುಂದಾಪುರ	04.10.2023	38	ಸಿರಗುಪ್ಪ	07.10.2023	65	ಸಿರಿಗೆರೆ	13.10.2023	92	ಕಲಬುರಗಿ	10.10.2023
12	ಬೈಂದೂರು	06.10.2023	39	ಕೂಡ್ಲಿಗಿ	02.10.2023	66	ಹೊಳಲ್ಕೆರೆ	10.10.2023	93	ಭಾಲ್ಕಿ	08.10.2023
13	ಹೊನ್ನಾವರ	03.10.2023	40	ಯಲಬುರ್ಗ	05.10.2023	67	ಹೊನ್ನಾಳಿ	05.10.2023	94	ಬಸವಕಲ್ಯಾಣ	02.10.2023
14	ಅಂಕೋಲಾ	09.10.2023	41	ಗದಗ	04.10.2023	68	ಮಲೆಬೆನ್ನೂರು	03.10.2023	95	ಬೀದರ್	02.10.2023
15	ಕಾರವಾರ	09.10.2023	42	ಸಿರವಾರ	05.10.2023	69	ದಾವಣಗೆರೆ	07.10.2023	96	ಔರಾದ್	06.10.2023
16	ಕುಮಟಾ	08.10.2023	43	ದೇವದುರ್ಗ	06.10.2023	70	ನೆಲಮಂಗಲ	04.10.2023	97	ಹುಮ್ನಾಬಾದ್	03.10.2023
17	ಭಟ್ಕಳ	03.10.2023	44	ರಾಯಚೂರು	07.10.2023	71	ಯಲಹಂಕ	04.10.2023	98	ಚಿಟಗುಪ್ಪ	02.10.2023
18	ಸೋಮವಾರಪೇಟೆ	07.10.2023	45	ಮಸ್ಕಿ	02.10.2023	72	ಹೊಸಕೋಟೆ	05.10.2023	99	ವಿಜಯಪುರ	09.10.2023
19	ಮಡಿಕೇರಿ	02.10.2023	46	ಮುಧೋಳ	09.10.2023	73	ಗೌರಿಬಿದನೂರು	02.10.2023	100	ಬಸವನ ಬಗೇವಾಡಿ	07.10.2023
20	ಅರಕಲಗೂಡು	07.10.2023	47	ಬಾದಾಮಿ	02.10.2023	74	ಚಿಕ್ಕಬಳ್ಳಾಪುರ	06.10.2023	101	ಸಿಂಧಗಿ	07.10.2023
21	ಬೆಟ್ಟದಪುರ	08.10.2023	48	ಹುಣಗುಂದ	04.10.2023	75	ತಿಪ್ಟೂರು	08.10.2023	102	ಇಂಡಿ	07.10.2023
22	ಪಿರಿಯಾಪಟ್ಟಣ	02.10.2023	49	ಬಾಗಲಕೋಟೆ	05.10.2023	76	ಕೋಲಾರ	10.10.2023	103	ಮುದ್ದೇಬಿಹಾಳ	07.10.2023
23	ಮೈಸೂರು	02.10.2023	50	ಹೊಸದುರ್ಗ	02.10.2023	77	ಮಾಲೂರು	08.10.2023	104	ಸುರಪುರ	04.10.2023
24	ಹುಣಸೂರು	03.10.2023	51	ಚಳ್ಳಕೆರೆ	09.10.2023	78	ಮುಳಬಾಗಿಲು	02.10.2023	105	ಜೇವರ್ಗಿ	10.10.2023
25	ಮಳವಳ್ಳಿ	04.10.2023	52	ಮೂಡಿಗೆರೆ	02.10.2023	79	ಕುಣಿಗಲ್	03.10.2023	106	ಚಿತ್ತಾಪುರ	05.10.2023
26	ಹಾಸನ	07.10.2023	53	ಕೊಪ್ಪ	02.10.2023	80	ಗುಬ್ಬಿ	06.10.2023	107	ಶಹಾಪುರ	07.10.2023
27	ರಾಮನಗರ	13.10.2023	54	ಕಡೂರು	05.10.2023	81	ತಿಪಟೂರು	08.10.2023	108	ಯಾದಗಿರಿ	07.10.2023

ಈ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮಗಳಲ್ಲಿ 5 ಲಕ್ಷಕ್ಕೂ ಮಿಕ್ಕಿದ ಆಸಕ್ತರು ಪಾಲ್ಗೊಳ್ಳಲಿದ್ದು, ಮದ್ಯಮುಕ್ತ ಸಮಾಜ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣದ ಸಂಕಲ್ಪವನ್ನು ಕೈಗೊಳ್ಳಲಿದ್ದಾರೆ.
ಬನ್ನಿ, ಗಾಂಧೀ ಜಯಂತಿಯ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸಿರಿ. ಮದ್ಯಮುಕ್ತ ಸಮಾಜ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣಕ್ಕೆ ನೀವೂ ಸಹಕರಿಸಿರಿ.

ಶ್ರೀ ವಿವೇಕ್ ವಿನ್ಸೆಂಟ್ ಪಾಯ್ಸ್
ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿ
ಅಖಿಲ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಜನಜಾಗೃತಿ ವೇದಿಕೆ ಟ್ರಸ್ಟ್ (ರಿ.)

ಶ್ರೀ ರಾಜಣ್ಣ ಕೊರವಿ
ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರು
ಅಖಿಲ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಜನಜಾಗೃತಿ ವೇದಿಕೆ ಟ್ರಸ್ಟ್ (ರಿ.)

ಡಾ। ಎಲ್. ಎಚ್. ಮಂಜುನಾಥ್
ಸಂಚಾಲಕರು
ಅಖಿಲ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಜನಜಾಗೃತಿ ವೇದಿಕೆ ಟ್ರಸ್ಟ್ (ರಿ.)

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Southwest monsoon ends, leaves State under spell of drought

Malnad districts experience 39% rain deficiency while there is 27% shortfall in South Interior Karnataka regions; coastal belt and North Interior Karnataka have a cumulative deficiency of 19%

R. Krishna Kumar
MYSURU

The southwest monsoon season for 2023 "officially" ended on September 30 and the cumulative rainfall in the State from June 1 to September 30 was 642 mm against a normal of 852 mm with the deficiency being 25%.

All the 31 districts received rainfall below the long period average leaving the State under a spell of drought.

The water levels in major reservoirs, including the KRS, are less than that in the corresponding period in the last 10 years. M.A. SRIRAM

Highest deficiency

Among the different regions, Malnad districts experienced 39% deficiency while there was 27% deficiency in South Interior Karnataka regions. The coastal belt and North Interior Karnataka have a cumulative deficiency of 19% in what is reckoned to be one of the weakest monsoons in recent years.

The 11 districts comprising South Interior Karnataka has received 271 mm of rainfall against a normal of 369 mm and the worst affected among them include Ramanagara, Chitradurga, Davangere, Chamarajanagar, Mysuru, and Mandya, as per the rainfall figures updated by the Karnataka State Natural Disaster Monitoring Centre (KSNDMC).

Numbers don't tell

But these figures don't tell the complete picture of the extent of drought as above normal rain was received during July and it has statistically helped bridge the deficiency.

The onset of southwest monsoon during June began on a weak note and it did not gain traction till July. The State-wide deficiency for June was 56% as it received only 87 mm of rain against a normal of 199 mm. The July downpour helped bridge this gap.

Cumulative rainfall (June 1 to Sept. 30)

Region	Normal	Actual
Karnataka	852 mm	642 mm
South Interior Karnataka	369 mm	271 mm
North Interior Karnataka	479 mm	386 mm
Malnad	1,556mm	956 mm
Coastal	3,101 mm	2,513 mm

Source: KSNDMC

Abundance in July

The cumulative rainfall in the State for July was 348 mm against a normal of 271 mm and the departure was 28% above normal. The rainfall across all the regions in the State baring the districts of Ramanagara, Kolar, and Chickballapur in south interior Karnataka, received rain that was higher than the long period average. But August and September turned the scenario grim once again forcing the government to declare 195 taluks as drought-affected.

During August, monsoon played truant again and the State received only 60 mm of rain against a normal of 220 mm which is 73% below normal with 29 of the 31 districts coming under "large deficit" category of KSNDMC, which translates to a shortfall of over 60% underlining the gravity of the situation.

Reservoir levels

This is also evident in the reservoir levels at Linganamakki, Supa, Varahi, KRS, Hemavathi, Tungabhadra, Malaprabha, Alamatti, and Narayanapura dams, which according to KSNDMC are less when compared to the corresponding periods of the last 10 years.

The State has 3,673 minor irrigation tanks of which only 30% had storages more than 50% of the capacity while in case of 60% of the tanks the storage was between 30% and 50%. The remaining tanks were dry or had insufficient storage to make a difference to agriculture.

There have been instances when the retreating monsoon coupled with low depression in the seas have created conditions for rains. While such a development will help shore up storage levels in the reservoir, it will make little difference to the farmers whose standing crops withered during the growth and the mature stage due to moisture stress.

KRRS plans to stage demonstration in Delhi

The Hindu Bureau
MYSURU

Karnataka Rajya Raitha Sangha plans to hold a demonstration in Delhi as part of its struggle over the Cauvery dispute.

Addressing a press conference in Mysuru on Saturday, KRRS leader Badagalpura Nagendra said a delegation of about 25 to 50 KRRS leaders from Cauvery basin regions will reach Delhi and hold a protest in front of the venue of the next Cauvery Water Regulatory Committee (CWRC) meeting. They are yet to finalise the date of the demonstration.

Shivashankarappa's statement sets off murmurs over postings to Veerashaiva-Lingayat officials

Nagesh Prabhu
BENGALURU

Are Congress Ministers and MLAs divided over providing prominent postings to officials belonging to Lingayat-Veerashaiva community in the government? Speculation around this question has been set off after veteran Congress leader and All-India Veerashaiva Mahasabha president Shamanur Shivashankarappa claimed at a function in Bengaluru that civil servants belonging to the community had been given a "raw deal".

A couple of Ministers have reportedly acknowledged this so-called "injustice", while other Ministers said there is no substance to the claim. Chief Minister Siddaramaiah himself on Saturday said there are seven Ministers belonging to the community in his government and "social justice is provided to all castes and communities" in his government.

Shamanur Shivashankarappa

Meeting promised

However, a leader of the All India Veerashaiva Mahasabha claimed that Industries Minister M.B. Patil and Medical Education Minister Sharan Prakash Patil had conceded that officials belonging to the community have been denied prominent positions. Both Ministers promised to convene a meeting to resolve the issue, the leader told *The Hindu*. Minister Laxmi Hebbalkar too admitted to sidelining of the community, he claimed.

Sources in the mahasabha said the officers either belonging to the IAS or KAS cadres have been given non-executive and "less significant" posts. For instance, the mahasabha leader said IPS officer S.D. Sharanappa has been posted as DIG Railways, which is a less prominent post. Earlier, he was the Joint Commissioner of Police, CCB. The community has 107 officials, including IAS, IPS, IRS, and KAS. But plum positions have been denied to these officers, the source claimed, and said there were none in high positions in BBMP or BDA.

Ministers defend CM

However, several Ministers in the Siddaramaiah-led Cabinet have denied these claims. Home Minister G. Parameshwara and Agriculture Minister N. Cheluvarayaswamy defended Mr. Siddaramaiah's decision on postings.

Speaking to reporters in Kolar, Mr. Cheluvarayaswamy said: "Postings are given on the basis of merit and not caste. Not a single official is sidelined. Mr. Shivashankarappa is a senior leader and if any such instances are there then he can discuss the issue directly with the Chief Minister." Mr. Parameshwara said: "We are not giving postings to officials on the basis of caste. It is given to officers who are efficient, sincere, and committed to deliver government programmes to people... Postings are not done on the basis of caste factor."

Dell seeks GoK intervention to overcome import restrictions on SEZ

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Texas-based technology conglomerate Dell sought support from the Karnataka government to overcome import restrictions on Special Economic Zone (SEZ) operations, which it said would enhance cost sustainability and help expand its operations and investments in India.

Dell was putting forth this requirement also on behalf of ESDM (Electronics System Development and Maintenance) ecosystem players and suppliers in the State.

An industry delegation from Karnataka headed by M.B. Patil, Minister for Large and Medium Industries & Infrastructure, met senior Dell officials comprising Michael Dundas of Global Manufacturing Operations and Technology, Alan Richey, Senior Vice-President, Legal, and Tabrez Ahmad, Director, Asia Pacific and Japan, Govt. Affairs and Public Policy, in Texas on Friday.

Dell was considering fresh investment in its research and development (R&D) centre in Bengaluru as part of its business expansion plans, said a statement from the Government of Karnataka on Saturday.

Dell, which has a market capitalisation of $50 billion, already operates one of its prominent research and development centres in Bengaluru. Globally, the tech major operates 25 manufacturing facilities and 14 of these facilities are focused on R&D activities.

The GOK delegation met officials of New York-based Semiconductor Manufacturing company Global Foundries, which invinced interest in increasing its workforce in Bengaluru by adding 200 skilled workers. Mr. Patil said the State government would help GlobalFoundries establish connections with customers and suppliers in India.

HC allows investigation against Malur MLA in criminal case

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka has permitted the conduct of investigation against K.Y. Nanje Gowda, MLA from Malur constituency, in a criminal case registered for allegedly granting around 80 acres of government land worth several crores of rupees to ineligible persons, including the dead, in his capacity as chairperson of Malur taluk Land Grant Committee in 2019.

"It is a classic case where the power entrusted to the representatives of the public is *prima facie* misused, as the government lands have been granted to the persons who could not be granted," the High Court said, while also vacating the stay granted in November 2022 against the investigation.

Justice M. Nagaprasanna passed the order while dismissing a petition filed by Mr. Nanje Gowda of the Congress and three others, who were the members of the committee.

The petitioners had questioned the October 15, 2022, order of the Special Court of Magistrate for dealing with criminal cases against MPs and MLAs, which had directed the Malur police to register an FIR against the MLA and three others based on a private complaint registered by one K.C. Rajanna, a Kolar-based social worker.

Mr. Rajanna had lodged the complaint before the special court after the Malur police in August 2022 had declined to register the FIR against the MLA and others on the ground another FIR was already registered against the then tahsildar V. Nagaraj in December 2019 on alleged illegal grant of government lands based on a complaint filed by the incumbent tahsildar.

The petitioners had said that the FIR registered against them was illegal as it amounts to registration of second FIR on the issue of illegal grant of lands.

Rejecting their contention, the High Court said that the petitioners were neither accused in the first FIR nor the allegations levelled in the complaint lodged against them in 2022 were the same as in the FIR registered only against the then tahsildar.

Referring to some instances of grant of land to ineligible persons as alleged in the complaint, the High Court noted that there were two 'ghost grants' as 1.39 acre of land was granted in July 2019 to one Narayanappa, who had died in 2004. Another parcel of land was granted to one Anandeesh Gowda on the ground that he was cultivating the land for the last 50 years though his actual age was 40 at the time of grant, which means he began cultivating land before his birth.

Nursing backbone of healthcare, says Governor

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The contribution of nurses in healthcare services is immense in today's world, said Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot on Saturday. He was speaking at an event organised by the Florence Nightingale Award Committee at Raj Bhavan.

Mr. Gehlot said: "While doctors prescribe suitable medicines, it is the nurses who execute vital patient care, ensuring timely medication administration and adhering to correct procedures. Nurses, who spend the most time with patients, instil hope in even the most disheartened."

CM, Dy. CM invite JD(S) MLC to join Congress

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

As many Muslim leaders have been sulking after the JD(S) formed an alliance with the BJP, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Deputy Chief Minister and KPCC president D.K. Shivakumar on Saturday extended an invitation to JD(S) MLC B.M. Farooq to join the Congress.

Speaking at the inauguration of Beary Souharda Bhavan in the city, Mr. Siddaramaiah said he had urged Mr. Farooq, one of the richest legislators of the State, to join the Congress but he joined the JD (S). "Mr. Shivakumar and I told Mr. Farooq not to join the JD(S), but to go to Rajya Sabha from the Congress, but he did not listen," he said.

Mr. Siddaramaiah said former Prime Minister H.D. Deve Gowda had said he would not join the BJP as he was the founder member of the JD(S). "Now, he is joining hands with the BJP," he said.

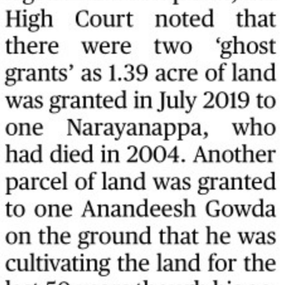
ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರಕಾರ
ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಸರ್ಜನರ ಕಚೇರಿ
ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ, ಉಡುಪಿ : 576101
ಕ್ರ.ಸಂ.ಸವಿ:05 ರಿಂದ 14/2023–24 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 25.09.2023
ವಿಷಯ: ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಹೆಂಗಸರ ಮತ್ತು ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಮೂಲಕ ವಿವಿಧ ಟೆಂಡರುಗಳ ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆ ಟೆಂಡರು ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ.
(ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಪಬ್ಲಿಕ್ ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಮಾತ್ರ)
ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಹೆಂಗಸರ ಮತ್ತು ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆಗೆ ಅವಶ್ಯಕತೆ ಇರುವ ಲೇಖನ ಸಾಮಗ್ರಿ, ನಾನ್ ಕ್ಲಿನಿಕಲ್, ಹೊರಗುತ್ತಿಗೆ ಮೂಲಕ ಗ್ರೂಪ್–ಡಿ ಮತ್ತು ಬಾಹ್ಯ ಮೂಲ ಸೇವೆ, ಪಥ್ಯಾಹಾರ, ಔಷಧಿ, ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆಯ ಪರಿಕರ, ರಕ್ತನಿಧಿ ರಾಸಾಯನಿಕ ಮತ್ತು ಪರಿಕರ, ಪ್ರಯೋಗಶಾಲಾ ರಾಸಾಯನಿಕ ಮತ್ತು ಪರಿಕರ, ವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ ನಮೂನೆಗಳ ಮುದ್ರಣ, ಟ್ಯಾಂಕರ್ ನೀರು, ಹಾಗೂ ಆಮ್ಲಜನಕ ಕೊಳವೆ ಟೆಂಡರುಗಳನ್ನು ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಆರ್ಹದರ್ಜಿಯ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಂದ ಟೆಂಡರುಗಳನ್ನು ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಪಬ್ಲಿಕ್ ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್ ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮೂಲಕ ನಮೂದಿಸಿದ ದಿನಾಂಕದಂದು ಸ್ವೀಕರಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು.
1. ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ನಿಗದಿಪಡಿಸಿದ ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ 25.10.2023 ರಂದು 4:30PM.
2. ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ಡುಗಳನ್ನು ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ 27.10.2023 ರಂದು 09:00AM.
ಇನ್ನಿತರೆ ನಿಭಂಧನೆಗಳು ಇಎಂಡಿ ವಿವರ ಹಾಗೂ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರ ಷರತ್ತುಗಳನ್ನು ಮತ್ತು ಟೆಂಡರಿನ ಶರ್ತ ಮತ್ತಿತರ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ದಿನಾಂಕ:–25.09.2023 ರಿಂದ ವೆಬ್ ಸೈಟ್ https://www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in ನಿಂದ ಪಡೆದುಕೊಳ್ಳಬಹುದು.
ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ಮೇಲಿನ ಕಚೇರಿಯಿಂದ ಪಡೆದುಕೊಳ್ಳಬಹುದು
ಸಹಿ/–, ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಸರ್ಜನ್, ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ, ಉಡುಪಿ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ, ಉಡುಪಿ–576 101

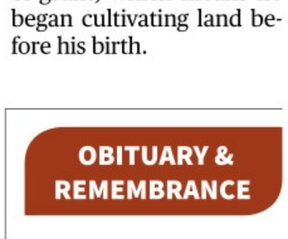
BANGALORE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
T. Chowdaiah Road, Kumara Park West, Bengaluru - 560 020
No. BDA/EE/HPD-1/TEN-72/2022-23 Date: 30.09.2023
INVITATIION FOR TENDER (IFT)
(Through GoK e-Procurement platform https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in)
Bangalore Development Authority invites tenders from eligible contractor for the following work: **Construction of Housing Project at Sy.No.100 & 102/1 of Valagerhalli Village in Kengeri Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk on Lump Sum Turnkey Basis based on Tenderer's Design under Two Cover System (Phase-7)**
Approx.cost put to tender: **Rs. 8138.24 lakhs.** EMD: **Rs. 82.00 lakhs.** Tender Procesing Fee: **Refer e-Procurement website.** Time for completion: **24 Months including monsoon**
The tender document can be downloaded from the e-Procurement website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** under login for Contractors.
Sd/- Executive Engineer,
Housing Project Division-1, BDA, Bengaluru
BDA/PRO/TN/02/2023-24

Government of Karnataka
(Rural Drinking Water & Sanitation Department)
Office of the Executive Engineer,
Rural Drinking Water & Sanitation Division, Shivamogga
No: EE/RWSS/Dvn/SMG/TE/JJM/Kppp-Proc/2023-24/984 Date : 30.09.2023
TENDER NOTIFICATION (Through KPPP- procurement)
On behalf of Governor of Karnataka and as per Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Rules 2000, tenders are invited to undertake the following works under Jal Jeevan Mission in the limits of Rural Drinking Water & Sanitation Division, Shivamogga. **Indent Nos:(1) 295 (2) 695 (3) 759 (4) 719 (5) 740 (6) 747 (7) 662 (8) 310 (9) 321 (10) 284 (11) 271 (12) 152.**
Tender details, conditions and corrigendum or changes are available in website https://www.kppp.eproc.karnataka.gov.in. Eligible bidders shall submit their bid and documents through above e-portal only. **Few conditions of the tender :** (1) The last date for receipt of tenders from contractors : **09.10.2023 & 10.10.2023 at 5.30 P M.** (2) Date of Opening of Single Cover Financial bid : **12.10.2023 at 11.30 A M** (3) Date of opening of Double Cover Technical bid : **11.10.2023 & 12.10.2023 at 11.30 A M.** (4) Date of opening of Double Cover Financial bid : **13.10.2023 & 14.10.2023 at 11.30 A M.** (5) Specified time period for completion of works : **Single cover & Double cover : 6 months (180 days)**
sd/- Executive Engineer,
Rural Drinking Water and Sanitation Division, Shivamogga
DIPR/SMG/No.115-09
zenkar/2022-23

THE SPORTS AUTHORITY OF GOA
Athletic Stadium, Cujira, Bambolim - Goa.
EMAIL: ed.tsag-goa@gov.in
WEBSITE: www.tsag.org
TENDER NOTICE
(E-TENDERING MODE ONLY)
[https://eprocure.goa.gov.in]
Tender No. NGS/37th NG/Medals/2023/3621 Dt: 30/09/2023
The Executive Director, Sports Authority of Goa (SAG) on behalf of Governor of Goa invites online bids **"Procurement and Supply of Medals, Trophies and Lapel Pins for the 37th National Games 2023, Goa-3rd call"**
TENDER SCHEDULE
a) Last date for ONLINE SUBMISSION of Tender is **04/10/2023** upto **16:00 hrs.**
b) The Technical Bid will be OPENED on **04/10/2023** at **16:30 hrs.**
c) The date of opening of the Financial Bids will be conveyed through letter of CORRIGENDUM (which shall be uploaded on **https://eprocure.goa.gov.in** website only)
For Detailed Tender Notice & for participation please Visit **https://eprocure.goa.gov.in**
Sd/-
(EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR)
THE SPORTS AUTHORITY OF GOA

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE
DEATH ANNIVERSARIES
IN FOND MEMORY OF
Shri. K.S. Ayodhyanath,
Director (Retd.)
Central Water Commission.
D.O.D: 01.10.2018
Loving family members:
Radha, Shubha,Sandhya,
Sridhar, Srivatsan, Padmavati,
Sharada and Sridaya

THIRTY NINTH ANNIVERSARY
Our respectful Homage to

Shri.A.K.SAMBASIVAN F.C.A.
22.08.1905 to 01.10.1984
Partners & Staff of
R.G.N.PRICE & Co., & Members of the Family

17th ANNIVERSARY

Shri R.RAGHUPATHY NAIDU
10.08.1924 - 01.10.2006
E.E. PWD & TTD, A.P (Retd.)
Ex.President, All India Nayudu Sangam.
Ex.Vice-president, All India Sai Samaj.
We Always Feel Your Presence
Fondly Remembered by
Dr.R.Ravinder M.E, Ph.D,Dr.R.Jamuna Rani M.D
Dr. R. Durga M.B.B.S., M.S. (OG),
Dr. R.Dhanush ME, Ph.D.(IIT-M),
Dr. Subalatha Dhanush M.E. Ph.D.,
Baby Lakshay & Baby Thanshikha.
Mobile: 93801 23020.

Kerala unit of JD(S) weighs options

Biju Govind
KOZHIKODE

The Kerala leadership of the Janata Dal (Secular) [JD-S], led by its State president Mathew T. Thomas and its lone Minister K. Krishnankutty, will convene with the party's national president and former Prime Minister H.D. Deve Gowda in Bengaluru on Sunday.

This comes amid a political crisis brewing within the Left Democratic Front (LDF) due to JD(S) solidifying its ties with the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) in Karnataka ahead of the 2024 Lok Sabha elections.

Sources indicate that the Kerala unit of JD(S) finds itself in a precarious situation, with the ruling Communist Party of India (Marxist) [CPI(M)] demanding an explanation from JD(S) regarding its continued presence in the LDF coalition despite joining hands with the BJP in Karnataka for electoral gain. This issue was brought to the forefront by Leader of the Opposition in the Kerala Assembly, V.D. Satheesan, who urged the CPI(M) leadership to clarify why JD(S), an ally of the NDA, remains within the LDF and the Cabinet.

Mr. Satheesan also pointed out that Left party leaders should address their anti-RSS stance only after expelling JD(S), which has aligned with the BJP.

Party sources revealed that the Sunday meeting will primarily focus on the strategy to be adopted by the Kerala unit to continue its political existence within the LDF.

'Hurt over JD(S)-BJP alliance forged without informing me'

Decision on the tie-up was taken even before core committee gave its opinion. Will take next step after meeting like-minded people on October 16, says JD(S) Karnataka president C.M. Ibrahim

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Upset with the former Chief Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy forging an alliance with the BJP, Janata Dal (Secular) Karnataka unit president C.M. Ibrahim on Saturday said he would take a decision on further course of action after meeting like-minded people on October 16. He claimed he was not in the know of developments leading up to the tie-up with the saffron party and it had hurt him.

"At least it was not discussed in the party forum. I am the party president," he told reporters on Saturday.

Stating that the decision regarding the JD(S)-BJP alliance was taken even before the core committee gave its opinion, he said: "The JD(S) first family had said the core committee will travel across the State, gather opinion, and then a decision would be taken. But even before the core committee could start its tour, you [Mr. Kumaraswamy] went to Delhi and met the BJP leaders. That has hurt me," he stated.

C. M. Ibrahim

What HDK had said

It may be mentioned that speaking at a press conference on Wednesday with his father and party supremo H.D. Deve Gowda, Mr. Kumaraswamy had said that the party had not disrespected any Muslim leader. "At every stage, Mr. Ibrahim was informed about the developments," he had asserted.

Ever since the public announcement of alliance with the BJP ahead of the Lok Sabha elections, there have been many voices of dissent from JD(S) Muslim leaders and there have also been some resignations. Senior State vice-president of JD(S) Syed Shafiulla Saheb has resigned from the party, followed by U.T. Farzana Ashraf, who was party spokesperson. The party's community leaders, who met in Bengaluru last Sunday, had decided to hold consultations at the district-level and meet again after 10 days to decide on the next course of action.

Who is in touch

On Saturday, Mr. Ibrahim claimed leaders, including NCP chief Sharad Pawar and Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar, have spoken to him. On being asked about the possibilities of him joining the Congress, he said party leaders have spoken to him. Mr. Ibrahim said he would not take any decision without informing Mr. Gowda and Mr. Kumaraswamy.

Tamil Nadu to get normal to above-normal rainfall this northeast monsoon: IMD

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has forecast that the northeast monsoon over the southern peninsular region, including Tamil Nadu, will be normal to above-normal this year.

The seasonal rainfall between October and December over the southern peninsular region is likely to be normal, logging 88% to 112% of the long period average, which is 33.4 cm.

Officials of the Regional Meteorological Centre, Chennai, noted that the IMD's seasonal outlook is usually provided for the entire region. While conditions are becoming favourable for complete withdrawal of the southwest monsoon by October 15, weather would be monitored for the onset of the northeast monsoon from around that time (the normal onset of the northeast monsoon happens around October 20), they said.

The combination of global weather phenomena, El Nino and Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD), involving sea surface temperature variability in the Indian and the Pacific Oceans and their influence on rainfall over the Indian region would continue to prevail, the officials added.

This year, Tamil Nadu has had normal southwest monsoon as IMD considers September as the time that it officially ends.

Kozhikode train arson case a 'jihadi' act, says NIA in chargesheet

The Hindu Bureau
KOCHI

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) has filed a chargesheet in an NIA special court in Kochi against the sole accused in the Kozhikode train arson case.

Sharukh Saifi, 27, has been charged under various sections of the Indian Penal Code (IPC), the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, the Railways Act and the Prevention of Damage to Public property (PDPP) Act.

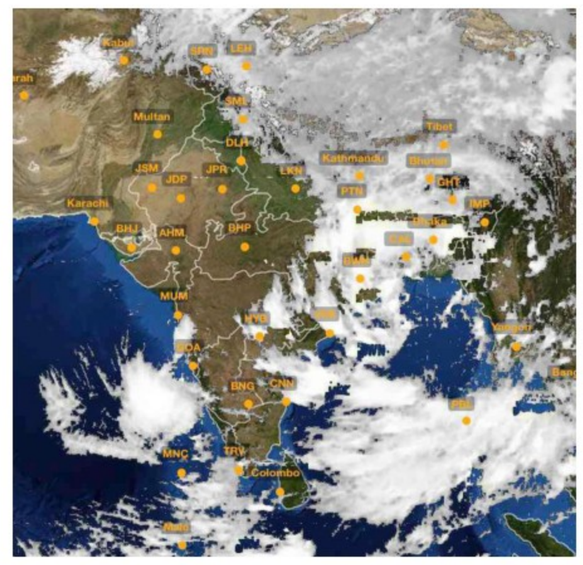
Three passengers, including a child, were killed and nine others were injured after the accused allegedly poured some inflammable liquid on passengers on the DI coach of the Alappuzha-Kannur Executive Express when the train crossed the Elathur station in Kozhikode and set the train on fire on the night of April 2, 2023.

The investigation revealed that Saifi chose Kerala for the act as he wanted to commit his jihadi act in a location where he would not be recognised. He intended to return to normal life after the commission of the act, aimed at creating terror in the minds of the general public.

The chargesheet stated that the accused was self-radicalised through various online propaganda material available on social media in favour of violent extremism and jihad as propagated by radical Islamic preachers of Indian and foreign nationalities.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.00 HRS)

Forecast for Sunday: Heavy/very heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Sikkim, Gangetic West Bengal, Bihar, Jharkhand, Odisha, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, central Maharashtra, Konkan & Goa, coastal Karnataka, Kerala, Mahe and Andaman & Nicobar Islands

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	6	32.6	25.9	Kozhikode	91	28.5	24.1
Ahmedabad	—	36.9	25.0	Kurnool	—	33.6	25.1
Aizawl	—	31.5	22.1	Lucknow	—	35.4	25.3
Allahabad	—	36.0	26.8	Madurai	—	35.2	26.4
Bengaluru	—	28.1	17.2	Mangaluru	43	27.8	23.8
Bhopal	—	—	22.7	Mumbai	6	32.8	24.4
Bhubaneswar	0.6	32.6	25.3	Mysuru	—	—	23.6
Chandigarh	—	34.5	22.0	New Delhi	—	35.8	22.6
Chennai	—	35.5	24.5	Patna	4.4	33.6	27.0
Coimbatore	—	31.2	23.8	Port Blair	5	29.4	24.7
Dehradun	—	35.0	22.4	Puducherry	—	36.0	27.4
Gangtok	—	20.7	17.7	Pune	17	29.9	22.2
Goa	15	30.0	23.4	Raipur	5	31.8	24.2
Guwahati	—	35.8	26.4	Ranchi	1	28.4	22.8
Hubballi	—	28.0	23.0	Shillong	0.8	26.1	19.0
Hyderabad	0.1	31.2	23.0	Shimla	—	27.0	17.4
Imphal	5	27.9	20.7	Srinagar	—	27.1	7.4
Jaipur	—	36.3	23.8	Thiruvananthapuram	57	30.8	24.2
Kochi	78	27.0	24.2	Tiruchi	—	34.8	25.6
Kohima	—	24.0	13.8	Vijayawada	—	34.2	25.4
Kolkata	25	29.5	25.4	Visakhapatnam	—	33.0	26.8

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	.18	135	.51	154	175	
Bengaluru	8	22	.70	40	60	
Chennai	4	109	.69	22	37	
Delhi	.23	49	.33	184	264	
Hyderabad	.12	7	.33	67	99	
Kolkata	.17	37	.20	43	56	
Lucknow	7	14	.61	133	103	
Mumbai	—	38	109	58	37	
Pune	133	225	111	68	60	
Visakhapatnam	7	55	.35	51	97	

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Byrnihat, Assam recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 320 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Silchar, Assam recorded a healthy AQI score of 21

Air Quality Code: Poor | Moderate | Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

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Speakers

MR K V RAMANI
FOUNDER AND CHANCELLOR, SAI UNIVERSITY

MR RAVI VISWANATHAN
MANAGING DIRECTOR, TVS SUPPLY CHAIN SOLUTIONS LTD

MS APURBA MITRA
PARTNER - ESG, KPMG, INDIA

PROF ASHWIN MAHALINGAM
FACULTY - DEPT OF CIVIL ENGINEERING, IIT MADRAS

MR GIRISH R VISVANATHAN
DIRECTOR TECH., EARTHONOMIC ENGINEERS PVT LTD
HEAD - TECH R&D - QI (CHI) SQUARE PTE LTD, SINGAPORE

MR S V NATHAN
PARTNER, DELOITTE

MS HEMA MANI
REGIONAL DIRECTOR – HUMAN RESOURCES
LENNOX INDIA TECHNOLOGY CENTER

DR R PALANISWAMY, IAS (RETD)
ADVISOR - EDUCATION, SRINIVASAN SERVICES TRUST

MR SUNITI BHAT
MD, SELAN EXPLORATION TECHNOLOGY LTD

MR SUHRITH PARTHASARATHY
ADVOCATE & POLICY COMMENTATOR

MS GAYATHRI SHANMUGAM
CHIEF PROGRAM OFFICER, HAQDARSHAK

MR SUJOY GHOSH
CEO, FIRST SOLAR

MR K MAHALINGAM
PRESIDENT, MMA &
PARTNER/DIRECTOR,TSM GROUP OF COMPANIES

MR V SHANKAR
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A BG-BGE

From Page One

Indian envoy blocked near U.K. gurdwara

"The High Commission of India has reported this disgraceful incident to the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office and the Metropolitan Police. Multiple community organisations including the organisers have formally regretted the incident and have urged the authorities to take action against the culprits," the statement said.Mr. Doraiswami is on a tour of Scotland and has been holding several meetings with the Indian diaspora there. *The Hindu* was told that India does not want the shadow of the ongoing spat with Canada to fall on India's relation with the U.K., and is willing to regard the latest incident as an aberration.

Sept. rainfall washes off monsoon deficit

North-west India getting its expected quota of 58.7 cm, while the north-east and eastern parts of India posted an 18% deficit. Southern India saw an 8% deficit, while central India got close to its expected quota. Overall, about 9% of the country received 'excess' rainfall, with 18% seeing 'deficient' rainfall. The monsoon was 'normal' in the rest of the country.

Muizzu wins Maldives presidential run-off poll

Saturday's presidential election run-off saw a higher voter turnout of 86%, compared to the 79.85% recorded in the first round – the lowest seen in a Maldivian presidential election – that proved inconclusive. The vote for change in the Maldives comes after a strong anti-incumbency sentiment against the Solih administration, and a concerted Opposition campaign. It was led by his rival, former President and jailed leader Abdulla Yameen, demanding 'India out' of the country.

October 7 deadline to exchange ₹2,000 notes

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

With about ₹14,000 lakh crore worth of ₹2,000 notes still not having found their way back into the banking system as on September 29, a day before the stipulated deadline for the general public to exchange or deposit the notes at bank branches, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has decided to extend the deadline to October 7.

On Saturday, the RBI issued fresh instructions to banks not to receive any ₹2,000 currency notes from October 8 onwards. Members of the public have been advised to deposit or exchange their notes without any further delay.

However, the central bank reiterated that ₹2,000 banknotes will continue to be legal tender.

It had announced the withdrawal of these notes from circulation on May 19.

With effect from October 8, ₹2,000 banknotes can continue to be exchanged by individuals and entities at 19 RBI Issue Offices, with a limit of ₹20,000 at a time. These notes can also be tendered at these 19 offices for credit to their bank accounts in India for any amount. Individuals and entities from within the country can also send these notes through India Post, addressed to any of the 19 offices for credit to their bank accounts in India.

India bids adieu to doyen of farming

R. Sivaraman
CHENNAI

Renowned agricultural scientist M.S. Swaminathan was cremated here on Saturday with police honours accorded by the Tamil Nadu government as a mark of respect for his phenomenal contribution in several fields.

The body was kept on the campus of the M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation (MSSRF), an institute he founded, where people from all walks of life paid tribute to the late scientist. On Saturday, the body was taken in a special vehicle, accompanied by the staff of the MSSRF and others, to the Besant Nagar crematorium for the final rites.

A team from the Armed Reserve Unit of the Greater Chennai City Police observed silence for two minutes and gave a gun salute. Later, he was cremated in the presence of his daughters – Soumya Swaminathan, Madhura Swaminathan, and Nitya Rao.

Earlier in the morning, Tamil Nadu Governor R.N. Ravi laid a wreath and paid tribute to Swaminathan. He also offered condolences to the bereaved family members.

N. Ram, Director, The Hindu Group Publishing Private Ltd.; Leader of the Opposition and AIADMK general secretary Edappadi K. Palaniswami; State Health Minister Ma. Subramanian; CPI general secretary D. Raja; Kerala Agriculture Minister P. Prasad; Kerala Electricity Minister K. Krishnankutty, MP Kodikunnil Suresh, Kerala State Planning Board Vice-Chairman V.K. Ramachandran; Telangana Agriculture Minister S. Niranjan Reddy, PMK leader G.K. Mani, and CPI(M) Tamil Nadu secretary K. Balakrishnan also paid tribute to Swaminathan.

Kazan meet makes no headway on equal rights in Afghanistan

The grouping failed to extract any promise from the Taliban representatives on a timeline for government formation or on restarting girl's education; amid embassy closure threat, Indian diplomat attends meet along with Taliban Foreign Minister

Suhasini Haidar
NEW DELHI

Stalled progress: The participants at the Moscow Format meeting held in Kazan, Russia on Saturday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Amid uncertainty over whether the Afghanistan Embassy in Delhi would shut down in the coming week, India took part in the nine-nation "Moscow Format" meeting, which included the Taliban's Acting Foreign Minister as an invitee, in the Russian city of Kazan on Saturday. Special envoys from Pakistan, Russia, China, Iran, and Central Asian states also took part in the meeting.

The regional grouping repeated its previous demands that the Taliban form a "truly inclusive government" and accord equal rights and freedoms to all Afghans, including women. However, it failed to make headway on the issue or extract any promise from the Taliban representatives on a timeline for government formation or on restarting girl's education.

"[The participants] regretfully stated that there had been no progress in forming a truly inclusive government in Afghanistan, reflecting the interests of all ethno-political groups of the country," said the 'Kazan Declaration', issued at the end of the meeting.

"The participants spoke out for respect of fundamental rights and freedoms in Afghanistan, including equal rights to work, education and justice, without distinction as to gender, ethnicity or religion, and stressed upon their concern about imposed restrictions on women's employment and girls' education," it added.

The participants also "gave assurances to continue providing humanitarian assistance to Afghanistan", and emphasised the need to "strengthen bilateral and multilateral economic ties", the declaration said.

Taliban Foreign Minister Amir Khan Muttaqi, whose regime had called for more economic support and for a move towards political recognition of the Taliban, formerly a UN-designated terrorist organisation, said the administration in Kabul was ready to engage with the world on the basis of "common legitimate interests".

"In the last 45 years, no foreign prescriptions have solved the problems of Afghanistan," Mr. Muttaqi said at the meeting, according to the social media posts by the Taliban spokesperson.

No country recognises the Taliban regime as a legitimate government, but all the Moscow Format countries and representatives from the UAE, Saudi Arabia, Turkiye, and Qatar, who attended as observers, maintain missions in Kabul.

While India closed its embassy when the Taliban took over in August 2021, it reopened it as a "technical mission" in June 2022, with officials regularly meeting Taliban Ministers to discuss humanitarian assistance and infrastructure projects in Afghanistan.

At the Moscow Format, India was represented by the Ambassador to Russia, Pavan Kapoor, as the special envoy who normally attends the format, Joint Secretary for Pakistan, Afghanistan and Iran J.P. Singh, is in the U.S. accompanying External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar.

As *The Hindu* has reported over the past week, the Modi government is grappling with a controversy as the Afghan Embassy in Delhi, still manned by diplomats loyal to the pre-Taliban democratic government, announced that it was shutting down.

The External Affairs Minister declined to comment on whether Mr. Kapoor met Mr. Muttaqi on the sidelines of the Moscow Format, and whether there were any discussions over the staffing of the embassy.

According to the Taliban's social media handles, Mr. Muttaqi met the special representatives of China and Pakistan, Yu Xiang and Asif Durrani, together, and discussed the security situation and border tensions with Pakistan. He also met delegations from Saudi Arabia, the UAE and other countries.

Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov took aim at the United States, which has refused invitations to join the Moscow Format since it was first held in 2017, and discussed the need to release frozen funds belonging to Afghanistan's previous government for assistance to the country.

Argentina, India sign social security agreement

Kallol Bhattacherjee
NEW DELHI

India and Argentina on Friday signed an agreement to ensure legal rights of professionals in each other's domain that will assist in risk-free international mobility. The Embassy of India in a statement said that the 'Social Security Agreement' is aimed at ensuring rights of the growing number of Indian nationals employed in various Indian and international concerns in Argentina as well as for Argentine nationals seeking employment in India.

The Social Security Agreement (SSA) between India and Argentina has created a legal framework which will enable professionals on both sides to claim old age and survivor's pensions. That apart, it also safeguards "permanent and total disability pension for employed persons as well as to legislations in Argentina concerning contributory benefits of the Social Security System". It also takes care of factors like "rent, subsidy and lump sum payments" as per national laws of both countries. India-Argentina trade ties have been expanding in recent years.

Tried to provide 'accurate picture' on Canada issue to U.S.: Jaishankar

Sriram Lakshman
WASHINGTON DC

Making a point: External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar addresses a press conference in Washington DC on Saturday. ANI

The government is having to inform U.S. officials' perceptions of Canada's relationship to separatism, based on External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar's description of his meetings with U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken and National Security Adviser Jake Sullivan.

The Minister had characterised Canada as having a "permissiveness" with regard to terrorism and violence, a view that "astonished" many in the States, he said. Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau had alleged on September 18 that the government was involved in the June killing of a Canadian Khalistani leader, Hardeep Singh Nijjar, in British Columbia. New Delhi has denied any involvement.

"In a way, a lot of what I said at the meetings, I think was new to the Americans," Mr. Jaishankar told journalists at a press conference on Friday afternoon at the Indian Embassy in Washington DC.

It was important for the government to talk things through with the U.S. government because they were "good friends" and also "close" to Canada, and it was important for them to have an "accurate picture", Mr. Jaishankar said. Beyond the government, in general, "a lot of Americans" were astonished to hear the government's perception of Canada, he said.

More generally, Mr. Jaishankar linked the row over the death of Nijjar to the larger issue of Canada permitting expressions of separatist sentiment on freedom of expression grounds, including in the context of a potential resolution of the current discord.

Mr. Jaishankar drew attention to the larger context.

"No incident is isolated," he said, adding, however, that he did not want to prejudge issues and was not taking absolutist positions.

Attacks on missions

The Minister said India's missions in Canada had been attacked and its diplomats threatened.

"We are a democracy, we don't need to learn from other people what freedom of speech is about," Mr Jaishankar said. "But we can tell people this: we don't think freedom of speech extends to incitement to violence."

If this had happened to any other country, how would they react? he said, pointing to the fact that this was happening in a G7 and Commonwealth country.

"Let's not normalise what's happening in Canada," he added.

While time was spent talking to his American interlocutors about Canada, Mr. Jaishankar said it was just one part of a larger discussion as the U.S.-India relationship was multidimensional. His meetings on Friday included bilateral discussions with U.S. Defence Secretary Lloyd Austin and Commerce Secretary Gina Raimondo as well as a roundtable with defence companies at the U.S. India Business Council, an industry body.

On Friday evening, Mr. Jaishankar attended a cultural event on the National mall, the World Culture Festival, organised by the Art of Living and its leader, Sri Sri Ravishankar. Significantly, the MCs used "India, Bharat" when introducing Mr. Jaishankar.

'More awareness now on link between crime and separatist violence'

Sriram Lakshman
WASHINGTON DC

In discussing whether a diplomatic falling out between New Delhi and Ottawa, following the killing of Khalistani separatist leader Hardeep Singh Nijjar in British Columbia in June this year, would have global impact, including the U.K., External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar focused on what he called a heightened awareness of the nexus between separatism and organised crime. His remarks were made, presumably hours after Indian diplomats were reportedly prevented from entering a gurdwara in Scotland on Friday, but before the news spread.

New Delhi does not want the situation with Canada to complicate ties with the U.K., where Khalistani activity has been a concern, *The Hindu* had reported.

Asked by *The Hindu* about the impact of the killing of Nijjar (Ottawa has accused New Delhi of masterminding this) as well as the diplomatic difficulties between India and Canada on other centres of heightened Khalistani activity, the Minister did not draw a clear linkage beyond pointing to an increased awareness of the nexus between separatism and organised crime.

"Your first question has a subtle or not so subtle assumption with which I disagree," Mr. Jaishankar told *The Hindu* on Friday during a press conference at the Indian Embassy in Washington DC.

"So, for me, there have been acts of violence in Canada," Mr. Jaishankar said, adding that the consequence of violent acts was to heighten the the awareness about the nexus today between separatists, those trafficking in people and organised crime.

"So if you're asking me are there other centres of crime in other countries? Well, I don't know. The workings of terrorists, extremists and organised crime is something which... I'm not quite sure whether they go by by replicating examples," Mr. Jaishankar said.

2 infiltrators killed near LoC in J&K's Kupwara

The Hindu Bureau
SRINAGAR

Two infiltrators were killed along the Line of Control (LoC) in north Kashmir's Kupwara on Saturday.

"Based on an Intelligence input by the police, a joint operation was carried out by the Army and the police in the Kumkadi area of Machil sector. Two terrorists have been killed," the police said. Their identity is not yet known. Two AK rifles, four magazines, 90 rounds, a pistol and Pakistani currency were recovered from the site.

Army's Project Udbhav to rediscover 'Indic heritage of statecraft' from ancient texts

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Project Udbhav stands testimony to the Army's recognition of India's age-old wisdom in statecraft, a statement said. PIB

The Indian Army has started an initiative, named Project Udbhav, to rediscover the "profound Indic heritage of statecraft and strategic thoughts" derived from ancient Indian texts of "statecraft, warcraft, diplomacy and grand strategy" in collaboration with the United Service Institution of India (USI), a defence think-tank.

In connection with this, USI will conduct a Military Heritage Festival on October 21 and 22, to acquaint "future thought leaders with the dynamics of comprehensive national security with special emphasis on India's strategic culture, military heritage, education, modernisation of security forces and *Atmanirbhar Bharat*," according to an Army statement.

"The project endeavours to explore India's rich historical narratives in the realms of statecraft and strategic thoughts. It focuses on a broad spectrum including indigenous military systems, historical texts, regional texts and kingdoms, thematic studies, and intricate Kautilya Studies," the statement said.

As part of this process, a panel on Friday discussed the "evolution of Indian military systems, war fighting and strategic thought", exploring both current research in the field and the way forward.

The initiative stands testimony to the Army's recognition of India's age-old wisdom in statecraft, strategy, diplomacy, and warfare, the statement said, adding that Project Udbhav seeks to bridge the historical and the contemporary.

The aim of Project Udbhav is not limited to just rediscovering these narratives, but also to develop an "indigenous strategic vocabulary", which is deeply rooted in India's "multifaceted philosophical and cultural tapestry". The overall aim is to integrate age-old wisdom with modern military pedagogy, it stated.

'Gardener governance model': Ashok Gehlot's poll pitch in Rajasthan

NEWS ANALYSIS

Varghese K. George
JAIPUR

Rajasthan has a history of voting out incumbent governments, and Ashok Gehlot has been there twice in his political career. But this time would be different, he says as he sits down for dinner after yet another gruelling day.

"We have delivered, and people know that we have delivered," Mr. Gehlot said. His plan for winning a majority in the 200-seat Assembly hinges on the slew of welfare and development schemes his government has kicked off. In 2018, the Congress won 100 seats, one short of majority. Election will be announced early October.

Mr. Gehlot calls it the "*mali* model of good governance", referring to his caste that is traditionally in the occupation of gardening. He likens his job as the Chief Minister to that of a gardener. "*Mali's* job is to tend the garden. There are flowers of various colours and fragrances. They need to be nourished and protected. As CM of Rajasthan, I think of myself as a gardener of the society," he said.

"Rajasthan is a garden. We have people from all communities. Brahmin, Vaishya, Dalit, backward classes, Muslims... the garden is beautiful when we have all types of flowers... Similarly, people of all backgrounds make a society complete... The job I am trying to do is tend it," he said.

Mali is an OBC community, and Mr. Gehlot's social origin has become a talking point for the Congress across the country.

"Of the four Chief Ministers that we have, three are from OBC communities," Congress leader Rahul Gandhi said in Madhya Pradesh on Saturday.

"I am the only one from the Mali community in the Assembly... The fact that I have been elected CM thrice itself is testimony to the inclusive politics that Rajasthan has," Mr. Gehlot said. "People of Rajasthan will vote for harmony and against attempts to incite people on the basis of caste and religion. This time, it is about the *mali* model of good governance."

From a unique and expansive universal healthcare guarantee to subsidised cooking gas, an innovative security net for gig workers, and free mobile phones with connections for 40 lakh women, the list of schemes launched by the Rajasthan government is long.

Ashok Gehlot

It was the distress among the vulnerable sections of the State during the COVID-19 lockdown that set Mr. Gehlot, who identifies himself as a Gandhian, on a new welfare course even as the BJP accused him of splurging public funds.

"The money belongs to people and we are using it for the welfare of the people," Mr. Gehlot said, underscoring his equal attention to expanding the economy. "We are supporting tourism, a key sector of our economy, agriculture and manufacturing."

The Congress strategists are hoping for the consolidation of three key social constituencies behind it – the backward classes, women, and youth.

Measures to alleviate the impact of inflation, such as cheaper cooking gas, could mobilise women for the party. Prime Minister Narendra Modi's speech in Jaipur this week also specially addressed women voters. Rajasthan's population is very young – 70% are below 35. The promotion of English education and the Rajiv Gandhi Rural and Urban Olympic Games that gives sporting opportunities are the party's routes to young minds.

Mr. Gehlot wears his loyalty to the Gandhi family on his sleeve – a key flyover in Jaipur is named after Rahul Gandhi's Bharat Jodo Yatra.

BJP a formidable force

Welfare schemes and the apparent absence of anti-incumbency against Mr. Gehlot are factors that work in favour of the Congress. The party has also managed to assuage Sachin Pilot, creating a united front. But the BJP remains a formidable force in the State, party strategists concede. The BJP is not projecting a leader, at least not yet, and there will be a scramble in the party for the top slot in the event of a victory.

Former Chief Minister Vasundhare Raje Scindia is feeling sidelined and hurt. However, the Congress does not think that it is going to be a determinant in the polls.

"The BJP has a strong network of RSS workers and social groups that are loyal to the ideology, regardless of the leaders. Additionally, Prime Minister Narendra Modi is popular," a party strategist, who did not want to be named, told *The Hindu*.

If the election turns out to be a close one, individual candidates could decide the fate of both parties. The Congress MLAs are facing strong anti-incumbency, though the Chief Minister is not – a trend that was visible in several States in recent elections – according to the party's feedback from the ground. This leaves the party in a dilemma.

Replacing a large number of MLAs and fielding fresh faces is one option that the Congress is considering but that is not without a negative fallout. The party MLAs might face anti-incumbency, but they also command loyalty among the workers. Replacing an optimal number of MLAs with fresh faces without upsetting the apple cart is the challenge. To do this, Mr. Gehlot may have to don his magician's cap.

Congress likely to field more women candidates in Chhattisgarh

Shubhomoy Sikdar
Sandeep Phukan
RAIPUR/NEW DELHI

Congress chief Mallikarjun Kharge may have called the women's reservation law a *jumla* (empty promise) during his visit to Chhattisgarh, but it seems to have prompted his party to promise a higher representation for women among its candidates to contest the upcoming Assembly election.

Currently, the Congress has 13 women and 58 men among its 71 MLAs in the 90-member Assembly.

On Thursday, Deputy Chief Minister T.S. Singh Deo said that the party could field two women candidates within each of Chhattisgarh's 11 Lok Sabha constituencies. "It's not that only two will be given ticket; if candidates are good, then why not more than two," Mr. Deo said. This idea was floated by Kumari Selja, the Congress's general secretary in charge of the State, at a closed-door meeting last week, sources said.

Increasing the number of women contenders, however, could be a tricky affair, as it would also mean denying ticket to many of the party's MLAs. The Congress has received 2,900 applications, with almost all sitting MLAs seeking another chance.

While the gender wise break-up of those applicants was not available, sources said that two or three names have been shortlisted against every seat except a few. Insiders say that winnability will be a factor even while deciding on women candidates.

Modi attacks Congress, says party is against OBCs

At rally in Chhattisgarh, he says the State is ready for a change; PM says Congress's attacks against him, opposition to BJP's presidential candidates show it is against disadvantaged sections

Shubhomoy Sikdar
RAIPUR

In an attempt to counter the Congress's recent pitch to Other Backward Classes, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday accused the Opposition party of being against the community, citing its repeated attacks on him.

Addressing an election rally in Bilaspur in Chhattisgarh, a State dominated by tribal people and OBCs, Mr. Modi said the Congress "hated" the poor, Dalits, tribal people, and OBCs. For the BJP, on the other hand, social justice was a way to ensure everyone's participation and lay the foundation of a developed India, he said.

"This hatred of Congress towards Modi is because they are troubled as to how this person coming from a backward section of society became the Prime Minister. They had reservation on the PM's chair. That's why they are not stopping from abusing the entire backward society in the name of Modi. Congress leaders think that even if they abuse this society, nothing will happen," Mr. Modi said.

In focus: PM Narendra Modi with Chhattisgarh BJP President Arun Sao at the *Parivartan Mahasankalp* rally on Saturday. PTI

Without naming Rahul Gandhi, he brought up the issue of the former Congress president's conviction in a 2019 defamation case, calling it another example of the Congress's hatred for the OBCs. "Court punishes them for OBCs, yet they are not ready to change. This is an example of how much hatred there is for OBCs," the Prime Minister said.

Mr. Modi also cited the examples of the presidential candidates fielded by the BJP during its two terms: Ramnath Kovind, who hails from a Scheduled Caste (SC) community, and the current President, Droupadi Murmu, a tribal woman. In Ms. Murmu's case, he said, the candidate fielded by the Congress was the former BJP leader Yashwant Sinha, which showed that its opposition to a "tribal daughter" was not ideological, he said.

At the *Parivartan Mahasankalp* rally in Bilaspur, which marked the conclusion of the BJP's two *Parivartan Yatras* (tours for change), Mr. Modi said Chhattisgarh was ready for change. He attacked the Bhupesh Baghel government in the State over issues such as corruption, tardy implementation of Central schemes, and malnutrition.

At M.P. rally, Rahul Gandhi promises caste census if party is elected to power

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi said on Saturday that Madhya Pradesh was an "epicentre of corruption." Addressing a rally in Shajapur district of the poll-bound State, he also reiterated his party's demand for a caste census.

"Madhya Pradesh is an epicentre of corruption in the country. Scams like Vyapam have rocked the State. MBBS degrees are being sold, exam papers are being leaked, and [there is corruption] in the construction of Mahakal Lok corridor, among others," he said.

Mr. Gandhi accused Prime Minister Narendra Modi of not giving Other Backward Classes (OBCs) their "rightful share" in governance, promised to conduct a country-wide caste-census if his party was voted to power, and asserted that three of the four Congress-ruled States had OBC Chief Ministers.

Talking point: Congress leader Rahul Gandhi being welcomed by party members at the rally in Shajapur on Saturday. ANI

In contrast, he pointed out, just three out of the 90 topmost officials and secretaries of the Government of India are OBCs.

"Soon after coming to power, the first thing we will do is to go for a caste-based census to know the exact number of OBCs and other sections of people for the benefit of all. No one knows their exact number," he said.

Calling the fight between the BJP and the Congress as a fight between the ideology of Mahatma Gandhi and his assassin, Nathuram Godse, he accused Mr. Modi of using diversionary tactics at the behest of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) and distracted public attention by spreading hatred.

"The RSS and bureaucrats are framing laws instead of elected BJP members...The RSS has given the job to the government to divert people's attention from core issues," he said.

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
email:- serw_ctc@yahoo.com
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER, RURAL WORKS CIRCLE, CUTTACK
No:-Tender Online RWC -25/23, Letter No.:- 3510 Date : 29.09.2023
e - Procurement NOTICE

1. Name of the Work : Construction of Road, Bridge &Building works.
2. Class of Contractor
c) Estimated cost more than Rs.6.00 Crore & upto Rs.50.00 Crore : Special Class (of Odisha PWD) & relevant class of other licensing authorities.
d) Estimated cost more than Rs.1.00 Crore & upto Rs.20.00 Crore : A Class (of Odisha PWD) & relevant class of other licensing authorities.
c) Estimated cost more than Rs.20.00 Lakh & upto Rs.3.00 Crore : B Class (of Odisha PWD) & relevant class of other licensing authorities.
3. Time for Completion : As specified in the Column-6 of the Annexure
4. Detail Projects : As per Annexure attached
5. Other Details :

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Availability of Tender on-line for bidding From	To	Last Date & Time of seeking tender clarification	Date & Time of opening of tender Technical Bid	Financial Bid
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Cuttack.	Tender Online RWC - 25/23	03.10.2023 at 11.30 A.M.	17.10.2023 up to 05.00 P.M	17.10.2023 up to 02.00 P.M	18.10.2023 at 11.00 A.M	Will be intimated later on

Further details can be seen from the website www.tendersodisha.gov.in .
Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Cuttack.
O-1158: OIPR-25097/11/0027/2324

KERALA WATER AUTHORITY e-Tender Notice
Tender No : E- T-No 154 to 160/2023-24/SE/PHC/CHN, AMRUT 2.0 - Construction of 5 MLD STP and Allied Components-5 MLD STP - Sewer network in 1) Marine Drive zone, 2) Panampilly Nagar zone, 3) Ravipuram zone-Sewerage Work, 4) KIIFB - Augmentation of WSS to Karumalloor - Construction of well cum pump house, 5) Construction of 20 MLD WTP in Kunnukara GP, 8.50LL OHSR and Supply & erection of Pump sets, 6) Supplying and commissioning of 250mm DI K9 Clear Water Pumping main towards OHSR at UC College and towards proposed OHSR in Karumalloor GP, Construction of 10.50LL OHSR at Manjali in Karumalloor GP
EMD : Rs. 2,00,000/- to 5,00,000/-, Tender fee : Rs. 19517.2, 19517.2,19517.2,13010,19517.2,19517.2
Last Date for submitting Tender : 19-10-2023 03:00:pm, Phone : 0484-2360645,
Website : www.kwa.kerala.gov.in, www.etenders.kerala.gov.in
Superintending Engineer
KWA-JB-GL-6-1305-2023-24 PH Circle, Kochi

MUNICIPAL BOARD, NATHDWARA DIST.- RAJSAMAND
S.No./M.B.Nath/Nirman/2023/27557 Date : 21-09-2023
Notice Inviting Bid
Bids for different works Nit No. 40/2023-24 of Municipal Board Nathdwara are invited from interested bidders up to date 02-10-2023 on 18:00 Hours. Other particulars of the bid may be visited on the procurement portal (http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, http://sppp.raj.nic.in) of the state govt.
UBN No. – DLB2324WSOB24503
Raj.Samwad/C/23/10295 Commissioner

SOUTHERN RAILWAY
(CONSTRUCTION ORGANISATION)
E-TENDER NOTICE No. 46-CECNMS-2023-E-400160 DATED : 27-09-2023
E-TENDER NOTICE No. 47-CECNMS-2023-E-396057 DATED : 27-09-2023
E-TENDER NOTICE No. 48-CECNMS-2023-E-382259 DATED : 27-09-2023
E-TENDER NOTICE No. 45-CECNMS-23-E-370881-II DATED : 12-09-2023
E-TENDER NOTICE No. CAO-CN-MS-GC-02-SEP-23 DATED : 20-09-2023
For and on behalf of The President of India, The Chief Engineer, Construction, Southern Railway, Egmore, Chennai - 600008 invites e-tender for the following work(s) as per Notice Inviting Tender (NIT) in our portal www.ireps.gov.in. The tenderers / contractors intending to apply for the tender needs to get enrolled in the portal www.ireps.gov.in and only online tenders will be accepted.

NAME OF THE WORKS	Cash Value (₹)	Earnest Money Deposit (₹)	Period of Completion (Months)	Closing Date @ 15.30 Hrs
Proposed 3rd line between Tambaram and Chengalpattu: Proposed Re-construction of Road Over Bridges with COMPOSITE GIRDER 1x52.15m (Skew), 49.005 (Sq) effective span in lieu of existing ROB 95B at Km. 31/19-23 in Tambaram and Perungalathur Stations and Proposed Reconstruction of Road Over Bridges with composite girder 1x52.15m (Skew), 49.005 (Sq) effective span in lieu of existing ROB 159 A at km. 55/6-10 in between Singaperumal Kovil and Paranur Stations and demolishing the existing ROBs 159A, 159B, 95A and 95B. (TWO PACKET SYSTEM)	49,21,24,043.84	26,10,600.00	15	20.10.2023
Proposed construction of additional New Foot Over Bridge at Tambaram Station. (Balance Works)	4,27,77,011.09	3,63,900.00	6	20.10.2023
Erode - Coimbatore Section: (1) Proposed Construction of pedestrian subway (including collection well and Roof covering) of size 3.00x 2.75 m in lieu of existing Level crossing No: 6 at Km: 6 / 15-17 between Irugur - Peelamedu Stations. (2) Irugur - Coimbatore Section: Proposed Construction of Limited user subway of size 4.50x 2.75 m in lieu of existing Level crossing No:7 at Km: 8 / 1-3 between Irugur - Peelamedu Stations. (3) Proposed Construction of Stair, collection well and Roof covering at existing Level crossing No.10 at Km. 11/33-35 between Peelamedu - Coimbatore North Stations	5,06,88,587.96	4,03,500.00	9	20.10.2023
Vriddhachalam - Salem Section - Proposed Construction of 1x46.20m clear span Composite Girder Road Over Bridge in lieu of existing Level Crossing No.159 at Km.164/600-700 between Ettapur Road and Minnampalli Stations (with LUS).	8,87,14,499.74	5,93,600.00	7	04.10.2023
Request for Proposal (RFP) for Appointment of General Consultant for Office Support for the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer.	3,55,78,608.00	3,27,900.00	24	31.10.2023

For further details, please refer to website portal www.ireps.gov.in or contact Office of the Chief Administrative Officer, Construction, E.V.R. High Road, Egmore, Chennai - 600 008.
Follow us on : twitter.com/GMSRailway

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT, MAHARANA BHUPAL GOVERNMENT HOSPITAL, UDAIPUR
No./SO/Online Tender/2023/392 Dated: 15/09/2023
Tender No. 391/15.09.2023
NIB No. GHU2324A0038
Following bid at Superintendent, Maharana Bhupal Govt. Hospital, Udaipur is invited from interested bidders upto closing date. Other particulars of the bid may be visited on the procurement portal [http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in of the state.]
UBN No. GHU2324SLRC00048
Superintendent
Maharana Bhupal Govt. Hospital
DIPR/C/14315 Udaipur

Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Institute of Medical Sciences
Vibhuti Khand, Gomti Nagar, Lucknow-226010 (UP) India
Ph: 0522-4918510, Fax: 0522-4918506 Website: www.drrmlims.ac.in
Ref. No. RMLIMS/MM(eq)/2023-24/2238 Date: 30.09.2023
Re Tender Notice
On-line offers are invited through BOQ Based GEM bidding No GEM/2023/B/4028334 dated 30.09.2023 and GEM/2023/B/4028496 dated 30.09.2023 from Manufacturer/Direct Importers/Authorized Distributors/ Dealer/Accredited Agents for the supply & installation of Computer, UPS, Printer and Office Furniture etc. for ESTABLISHMENT OF SKILL LAB FOR RUNNING OF NURSING COLLEGES UNDER 15 STATE MEDICAL COLLEGE – GORAKHPUR, KANNAUJ, PRAYAGRAJ, JHANSI, BANDA, AZAMGARH, AMBEDKARNAGAR, JALAUN, SAHARANPUR, BADAUN AND AUTONOMOUS STATE MEDICAL COLLEGE – AYODHYA, BASTI, BAHRAICH, FIROZABAD AND SHAHJAHANPUR.
The Vendors are required to submit their offer on GEM portal only in two bids system i.e. technical & financial bid as per norms of GeM portal.
Due to insufficient offers, the offers submitted earlier for the listed items by the bidders against tendered Bid No. Gem/2023/B/3839852 dated 17-08-2023 and Gem/2023/B/3853596 dated 21-08-2023 etc. will be treated as cancelled. Therefore, those who have already submitted their offers against above GeM bid are also required to submit fresh offers but they are not required to deposit EMD again but enclose its proof in technical bid as per tender terms & conditions.
For more detail information like Name of Computer, UPS, Printer and Office Furniture etc. Date of Submission and opening of bid etc., you may please visit the GeM portal www.gem.gov.in. The offer will be accepted On–Line only on GeM portal with terms and conditions as mentioned in GeM bidding document.
Director

JODHPUR VIDYUT VITARAN NIGAM LIMITED, JODHPUR
(MATERIAL MANAGEMENT & CONTRACT WING)
NEW POWER HOUSE, INDUSTRIAL AREA, JODHPUR-342003
PHONE: (0291) 2742223 FAX: (0291) 2746539
E-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE
E-Procurement tender is invited for purchase of Galvanised M.S. Forged L.T. Pin For LT Pin Insulators Under TN-1941 (UBN JVV2324GLOB00506) and Fibre glass 3 section telescopic operating rod with earthing conductor (Lead) and continuous pole height adjustment, Locking Mechanism having total extension length of 6 meters Under TN-1950 (UBN JVV2324GLOB00507).
Details regarding Quantity, Tender cost, Earnest Money, Schedule date of tender opening for aforesaid tenders areavailable on our website at http://energy.rajasthan.gov.in/jdvvnl and also at http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in
SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER (MM&C)
Raj.Samwad/C/23/10356 बिजली संबंधी शिकायतों के लिए टोल फ्री नम्बर 1800 180 6045

कार्यालय अधीक्षण अभियंता, सा.नि.वि., वृत्त - ग्रामीण, जयपुर
पी.डब्ल्यू.डी. कैम्पस, जैकब रोड, जयपुर क्लब के सामने, जयपुर फोन :- 0141-2223527
E-mail :- sejprur.pwd@rajasthan.gov.in, E-mail :- seruraljaipur@gmail.com
क्रमांकः 3798-3814 दिनांकः 20.09.2023
अल्पकालीन निविदा सूचना संख्या : 22/2023-24
ग्रामीण वृत, जयपुर अन्तर्गत बजट घोषणा 2023-24 की पालना में एवं जनसहभागिता योजनान्तर्गत विभिन्न सड़कों का निर्माण कार्यों हेतु इच्छुक निविदादाताओं द्वारा दिनांक 03.10.2023 तक निविदाएं आमन्त्रित की जाती हैं। निविदा से संबन्धित अन्य विवरण राज्य की उपापन पोर्टल (http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, http://sppp.raj.nic.in) एवं विभागीय वेबसाईट http://pwd.rajasthan.gov.in पर देखे जा सकते हैं। उपापन की अनुमानित कुल लागत रु. 546.90 लाख है।
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DIPR/C/14797/23 फोन नं. 0141-2223527

JODHPUR VIDYUT VITARAN NIGAM LIMITED
Corporate Identity Number (CIN) –U40109RJ2000SGC016483
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER (RA&C)
Regd. Office : New Power House, Jodhpur- 342003
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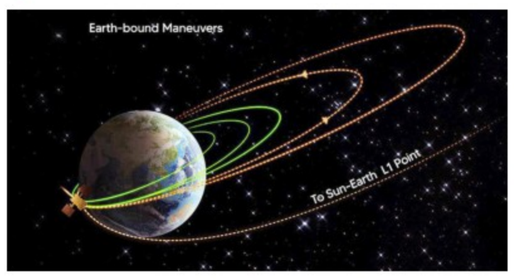
E-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE
E-tenders in two parts (Techno-commercial bid & Price bid) are invited from eligible bidders for design, survey, supply, installation, testing, commissioning, operation & maintenance for 25 years from COD of grid connected solar power plants through RESCO mode, its associated 33kV or, 11kV line to connect the plant with various 33/11 kV Sub-Stations and remote monitoring system (RMS) of solar power plants under KUSUM Scheme-Component C (Feeder level solarization) in various sub-divisions of following circles-

S.N	Name of Circle	NIT No.	UBN No.
1	Jodhpur District	JDVVNL/SE(RA&C)/TN-DSM-47 to TN-DSM-55	JVV2324WLOB00550 to JVV2324WLOB00558
2	Bikaner District	JDVVNL/SE(RA&C)/TN-DSM-56 to TN-DSM-63	JVV2324WLOB00562 to JVV2324WLOB00569
3	Churu	JDVVNL/SE(RA&C)/TN-DSM-64 to TN-DSM-66	JVV2324WLOB00572 to JVV2324WLOB00574

All the details regarding tender is available at web site www.energy.rajasthan.gov.in / jdvvnl, www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in and www.sppp.rajasthan.gov.in vide NIT No. JDVVNL / SE(RA&C) / TN-DSM-47 to NIT No. JDVVNL/SE(RA&C)/TN-DSM-66.
In future any other notices/information regarding corrigendum/extension, if any, shall be published only at web site www.energy.rajasthan.gov.in / jdvvnl,http:// www.sppp.rajasthan.gov.in and www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in
SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER (RA&C)
राज.संवाद/सी/23/10364 बिजली शिकायतों के लिए टोल फ्री नम्बर– 1800–180–6045

INBRIEF



Aditya-L1 spacecraft escapes sphere of earth's influence

The ISRO said on Saturday the Aditya-L1 spacecraft has travelled beyond a distance of 9.2 lakh km from Earth, successfully escaping the sphere of earth's influence. It is now navigating its path towards the sun-earth Lagrange Point 1 (L1), the Bengaluru-headquartered national space agency said on X. The ISRO said, earlier this month, the Aditya-L1 solar mission spacecraft commenced collecting data which will help scientists analyse the behaviour of particles surrounding Earth. Data collected around L1 would provide insights into the origin, acceleration, and anisotropy of solar wind and space weather phenomena, it said.

U.P. terms encounters 'police self-defence action'

The Uttar Pradesh government termed police encounters "self-defence action" that is subject to fair and impartial investigation. A 286-page status report filed in the Supreme Court said it leaves "no stone unturned" in its enquiries into police action. "In all the police encounter incidents that have taken place since 2017, details related to the killed criminals and the results of the investigation/enquiry are collected and scrutinised every month at the police headquarters level... sweeping allegations against the State... are completely false and unjustified," the Additional Director-General of the UP Special Task Force said.

RJD leader under fire for remarks on reservation Bill

Senior Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) leader Abdul Bari Siddiqui has triggered controversy in Bihar by stating that "women with lipstick and bob-cut hair" alone should not benefit from the women's reservation Bill. He later expressed regret for his comment. Mr. Siddiqui made his remarks in Muzaffarpur district on Friday while addressing a public meeting organised by the party's Extremely Backward Cell. At the programme, Mr. Siddiqui demanded reservation for women from backward and extremely backward communities. "If women with bob-cut hair, lipstick, and [talcum] powder go to Parliament, then your women will not get their rights," he said.

Centre bats for transition to regional language education

The Union Education Ministry has emphasised the integration of technology in promoting *Bharatiya Bhasha* (regional languages), including its role in teaching, training, examination and translating educational materials. On the first day of a two-day summit on Indian languages in New Delhi on Saturday, directions were given to facilitate "a seamless transition" from the present education ecosystem to one rooted in the country's languages. Addressing the summit, Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan said the fusion of Indian languages and technology will open doors to limitless possibilities for the talent pool of the country.

SUDOKU

		5				6		7
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8	2							
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	3		5		4		6	
5			6	7				
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		2		5		3		1
7		9				8		

No.SS5935 Distribution: www.knightfeatures.com

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

6	1	5	7	8	9	2	4	3
2	7	4	6	3	1	5	9	8
3	9	8	5	2	4	6	7	1
1	3	9	4	6	2	8	5	7
8	4	2	9	7	5	1	3	6
7	5	6	8	1	3	4	2	9
4	2	7	1	9	6	3	8	5
9	6	3	2	5	8	7	1	4
5	8	1	3	4	7	9	6	2

NMC's order on MBBS seat allocation viewed as unfair to southern States

The National Medical Commission's decision that new colleges seeking recognition shall follow the ratio of 100 seats per 10 lakh population will punish States that have performed well in population control and undermine federalism in healthcare, say doctors and education experts

Bindu Shajan Perappadan
NEW DELHI

The National Medical Commission's decision to allow and allocate medical education seats according to the population of a State or Union Territory is turning into a southern States versus the Centre debate on the freedom to provide healthcare and education to people. The order comes into effect from the next academic year.

Some of the States and Union Territories that are likely to be hit by the decision are Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Telangana and Puducherry. They want to appeal against what they claim is discrimination for doing well. In these States, the number of medical seats has exceeded the ratio as recommended by the NMC order. Experts note that apart from these states, Himachal Pradesh, Manipur and Sikkim will be adversely affected.

The NMC notification covers both government and private medical colleges and was issued last month. It says, "After 2023-24 (which means from the 2024-25 academic year), a letter of permission for starting of new medical colleges shall be issued only for annual intake capacity of 50/100/150 seats [new medical colleges will only have 50-150 seats] provided that medical colleges shall follow the ratio of 100 MBBS seats per 10 lakh population in that State/Union Territory."

Many concerns

While the commission did not respond to queries about the rationale behind the move, various social media posts on the subject by senior Congress leader P. Chidambaram, senior doctors and experts working in the field of education have called this "punishment for good performance, serious encroachment on the powers of the State government and the State legislature". They have also asked why State governments cannot start new medical colleges out of their own funds and for their own students.

Rationale questioned: Doctors and experts have termed the move a 'punishment for good performance'. FILE PHOTO

"The Centre and its agencies are undermining federalism," Mr. Chidambaram said in his post while senior officials in the Karnataka government have indicated that they would appeal against the order.

Tamil Nadu has 11,600 seats for a projected population of 7.64 crore as of 2021, according to data provided in the Lok Sabha by the Health Ministry. Karnataka has 11,695 seats (6.76 crore), Andhra Pradesh 6,435 (5.34 crore), Kerala 4,655 (3.54 crore) and Telangana 8,540 (3.77 crore).

Under the new guidelines, Tamil Nadu should only have around 7,600 seats, Karnataka (6,700), Andhra Pradesh (5,300), Kerala (3,500), and Telangana (3,700).

Also, according to NMC data, Andhra Pradesh had 1,05,799 registered doctors as of June 2022, while Karnataka had 1,34,426, Kerala 42,596, Tamil Nadu 1,48,217 and Telangana 14,999.

The latest order comes at a time when Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya earlier this year met with representatives of over 50 private and charitable hospitals or chains, and urged them to start undergraduate and postgraduate medical courses.

Sudhir Kumar, a neurologist at Apollo Hospital in Hyderabad, said that the country had to look at the overall picture to provide its citizens with doctors and not go State-wise. Additionally, doctors migrate for work across the country.

"Patients also travel. We still don't have an optimum doctor-to-patient ratio. A good number of people who want to become doctors still don't get a seat. We should actually work towards giving the best quality and quantity of medical education and become world leaders in this field," he said.

Public health

Senior vascular surgeon J. Amalorpavanathan said, "Medical education is closely tied to public health. Hence, States should have the freedom to decide how many doctors they should produce – for public health, for specialties and super-specialties and for the private sector. Each State can plan accordingly and produce optimum numbers. These can be revised every decade. The NMC must stick to deciding syllabus and recognition."

K.R. Antony, public health consultant, Kochi, said that availability of trained doctors for postings in the vast rural areas of the country cannot be assured by merely opening new medical colleges.

"It will lead to a degeneration of medical education as a profit-oriented commercial activity with a compromise in the quality of education and ethical standards. Such commercial production of doctors only leads to export of Indian doctors for Western countries and not for our under-served areas. Need-based training of doctors and their rational deployment for service to the community in India is the need of the hour," he stated.

Common school syllabus and Board not in child's interest, CBSE tells SC

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has objected to a plea in the Supreme Court for a uniform Board and school curriculum, saying such a move does not take into account local context, culture and language, besides the power of individual States to frame their own syllabus, curriculum and conduct examinations for their schools.

The Board said the emphasis should be on "flexibility for the emphasis of local resources, culture and ethos". "A child can better relate to a curriculum that is more closely related to his/her life outside the school. Therefore, multiplicity of curricula and other educational resources is desirable in addition to a core common element," the CBSE underscored in its reply.

Context matters: A child can better relate to curriculum that is more aligned with their life outside school, the CBSE said. FILE PHOTO

States' power

The Board said 'education' was a subject on the Concurrent List of the Constitution.

A majority of schools are under the jurisdiction of the State governments. It is for the respective State/Union Territory governments to frame syllabus, curriculum and conduct examinations for their schools, the counter-affidavit said.

The National Curriculum Framework (NCF), developed by the NCERT as per the mandate of the National Policy on Education, sets the guidelines and direction for the development of syllabi and textbooks at all stages in schools. As a follow-up to the NCF, curriculum, syllabi, textbooks and other supplementary material are developed by the NCERT. The State Councils of Educational Research and Training (SCERTs) and State Education Boards either adopt or adapt NCERT's model syllabi and textbooks or develop their own based on the NCF, the affidavit explained.

"NCERT prepares model syllabus and textbooks for school education... States and UTs have freedom to either adopt or adapt NCERT textbooks."

The Board was responding to a writ petition filed by advocate A.K. Upadhyay, who argued that different syllabus and curriculum by the CBSE, ISCE and State Boards was arbitrary and contrary to the Constitution.

It had sought a direction to the Centre to implement a uniform system (common syllabus and common curriculum in the mother tongue) up to Class 12.

NIA arrests one from Manipur for 'waging war against India'

Vijaita Singh
NEW DELHI

Seiminlun Gangte is one of the prime suspects in the Kwakta bomb blast case: Manipur Police

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) on Saturday arrested one Seiminlun Gangte, 51, from the hill district of Churachandpur in a case related to a transnational conspiracy by terror outfits based in Myanmar and Bangladesh to "wage war" against the Government of India by exploiting the current ethnic unrest in Manipur.

The case was registered *suo motu* by the NIA in New Delhi on July 19.

His wife Mangshi Seiminlun told *The Hindu* that her husband was arrested from Phuoljang area. "Before the unrest, he used to teach English at a private school in Kwakta. After the violence began in May, he was working at a godown in Churachandpur and used to ferry goods for the proprietor Kamaluddin, who lives in Kwakta," she said.

The Manipur Police said he is one of the prime suspects in the Kwakta bomb blast case. The NIA said its investigation has revealed that militant groups based in Myanmar and Bangladesh have entered into a conspiracy with a section of militant leaders in India to indulge in violence with an intention to drive a wedge between different ethnic groups and to wage war against India.

The accused was brought to Delhi after his arrest and will be produced before the court.

Grassroots development is crucial for growth: PM

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Resources should be distributed equally with a special focus on under-served areas, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said here on Saturday while inaugurating *Sankalp Saptaah*, a week-long programme for aspirational blocks.

Sankalp Saptaah is the culmination of brainstorming sessions organised at village and block levels across the country for the effective implementation of the Aspirational Blocks Programme (ABP).

Mr. Modi emphasised that all parts of the country should be looked after. Grassroots development is vital, he said, urging officials to identify 100 blocks in the country that are lagging behind in order to serve them better.

Chennai top node in tortoise trafficking network

Rahul Karmakar
GUWAHATI

Chennai is the highest-ranked node in the tortoise and hard-shell turtle trafficking network, fuelling the global pet trade, a new study has found.

Mumbai, Kolkata, Bengaluru, Anantapur in Andhra Pradesh, Agra, and North 24 Parganas and Howrah in West Bengal also rank high, the study published in the September edition of *Oryx, The International Journal of Conservation*, said.

The study titled *From pets to plates* also found that the trafficking of soft-shell turtles for meat was predominantly domestic in nature, with the international trafficking of the reptile from or to India almost restricted to Bangladesh.

The most frequent trafficking links in the soft-shell turtle trafficking network were from Jaunpur in Uttar Pradesh to unspecified districts in West Bengal and from North 24 Parganas to unspecified districts in Bangladesh, it said.

The authors of the study are Ramya Roopa Sengottuvel, Aristo Mendis, Nazneen Sultan, Shivira Shukla, Anirban Chaudhuri, and Uttara Mendiratta, all associated with the Counter Wildlife Trafficking Programme of the Wildlife Conservation Society-India.

Freshwater species, such as the Indian flapshell turtles, are in great demand in illegal markets. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Double whammy

"Asian turtle crisis" is a term often used to describe the current state of tortoises and freshwater turtles (TFTs) on the largest continent on earth. Wild populations of TFTs have suffered immensely due to the onslaught of habitat destruction and illegal and unsustainable harvest, the researchers said.

"The TFTs are under tremendous pressure from illegal trade, as pets, food, and medicines across the world. In India, at least 15 of the 30 TFT species, including those threatened by extinction, are illegally traded. Tens of thousands of TFTs are seized across India annually by law enforcement agencies," their study said.

The study was aimed at examining the similarities and differences in the operation of illegal trade in tortoises and freshwater turtles that are in demand for different illegal markets, towards designing targeted interventions.

Based on reports

The researchers conducted a systematic online search for media reports on seizures of tortoises and freshwater turtles originating from India from January 1, 2013, to December 31, 2019.

The identified nodes in the network represented districts (for locations within India) or cities (for locations outside India), and each link represented a trafficking connection between the nodes.

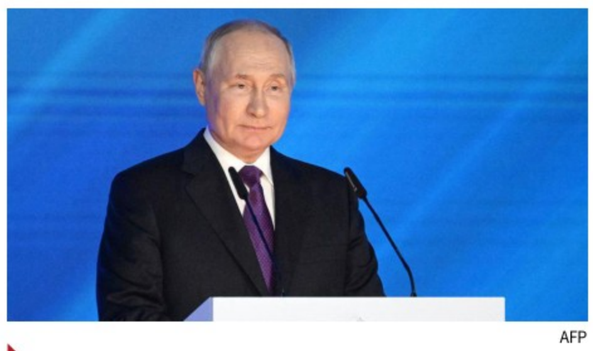
"Chennai was identified as the most central node in the tortoise/hard-shell turtle trafficking network... Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia), Bangkok (Thailand), and unspecified districts in Bangladesh were identified as the most important importing nodes," the study said.

"Within India, Chennai and Mumbai had the highest numbers of incoming trafficking links in this network, indicating their role as transit or collection points for further export abroad," it added.

Mr. Chaudhuri, an expert in reptile trade and rescue, highlighted the effects of the trade. "The turtles that come in trade land up in very poor state. They are dehydrated and starved, and many come with broken or bruised shells, many times with irrecoverable external injuries. Mortality in these turtles is also high," he said.

MOSCOW

Putin marks anniversary of annexation of Ukrainian regions



AFP

Russian President Vladimir Putin insisted that the residents of four Ukrainian regions that Moscow illegally annexed a year ago "made their choice — to be with their Fatherland." In an address to mark the first anniversary of the annexation, Putin insisted that it was carried out "in full accordance with international norms." AP

BRATISLAVA

Pro-Russian ex-PM, pro-Western liberals face off in Slovakia polls

AFP

Slovaks started voting in a parliamentary election fought between former leftist Prime Minister Robert Fico, who has pledged to end military aid for neighbouring Ukraine, and pro-Western liberals. Fico's victory would mean Slovakia joining Hungary as EU countries challenging the bloc's consensus on support for Ukraine. REUTERS

KUALA LUMPUR

Malaysia blames Indonesian fires for haze and poor air quality

AFP

Forest fires in Indonesia have caused haze that has worsened air quality in parts of Malaysia, a Kuala Lumpur official said. Outbreaks of smog-belching forest fires in 2019 caused Malaysia to say it would pressure Indonesia to combat the annual problem, which is often caused by blazes lit to clear agricultural land. AFP

JERUSALEM

Hamas militant killed by Israeli troops in occupied West Bank

AFP

A member of the Palestinian Islamist Hamas movement was killed on Friday evening during a clash with Israeli soldiers in the occupied West Bank. At least 242 Palestinians, 32 Israelis, a Ukrainian and an Italian have been killed since the beginning of the year in violence linked to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. AFP

Almost all ethnic Armenians flee from Nagorno-Karabakh

More than 1 lakh people out of the estimated 1.2 lakh population flee the breakaway territory; UN will send a mission to Karabakh this weekend to assess the humanitarian needs in the region

Agence France-Presse
KORNIDZOR

The flood of refugees from Nagorno-Karabakh dwindled to a trickle on Saturday as Armenia said nearly the entire population of the breakaway territory had already fled after Azerbaijan seized back control.

Border guards at the Kornidzor crossing into Armenia were waiting for a final few buses.

Final destination: An ethnic Armenian woman from Karabakh warms herself near a tent camp after arriving at Armenia's Goris. AP

Plight of refugees

In the nearest town of Goris, hundreds of exhausted refugees waited amongst their baggage in the central square for the government to offer accommodation.

Azerbaijan's lightning military takeover of the ethnic Armenian enclave last week sparked a sudden exodus that has rewritten the centuries-old ethnic makeup of the disputed region.

Armenia said on Saturday 1,00,417 people from an estimated population of 1,20,000 had fled since the breakaway region saw its decades-long fight against Azerbaijani rule end in sudden defeat.

Yerevan has accused Azerbaijan of conducting a campaign of "ethnic cleansing" to clear Nagorno-Karabakh of its Armenian population.

But Baku has denied the claim and has publicly called on the Armenian residents of the territory to stay and "reintegrate" into Azerbaijan.

The United Nations has said it will send a mission to Nagorno-Karabakh this weekend, mainly to assess humanitarian needs, the first time the international body has had access to the region in about 30 years.

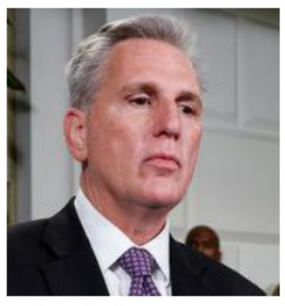
McCarthy mulling a 45-day plan to avoid U.S. government shut down

Associated Press
WASHINGTON

On the brink of a federal government shutdown, U.S. House Speaker Kevin McCarthy announced a dramatic pivot on Saturday, trying to push a 45-day funding Bill through the House with Democratic help – a move that could keep government open but most certainly risks his job.

Republican lawmakers met behind closed doors early in the morning with hours to go before the midnight deadline needed to fund government operations or face a disruptive federal closure. The new approach would leave behind aid to Ukraine that a growing number of Republicans oppose.

The House was preparing for a quick vote on Saturday on the plan.



Kevin McCarthy

"Our options are slipping away every minute," said Republican Rep. Mario Diaz-Balart of Florida, as he left the private session at the Capitol.

With no deal in place before Sunday, federal workers will face furloughs, more than 2 million active-duty and reserve military troops will work without pay and programs and services that Americans rely on from coast to coast will begin to face shutdown disruptions.

The sudden House action would fund government at current 2023 levels for 45 days and provide money for U.S. disaster relief.

Mr. McCarthy, R-Calif., will be forced to rely on Democrats for passage because the Speaker's hard-right flank has said it will oppose any short-term measure. Mr. McCarthy was setting up a process for voting that will require a two-thirds supermajority, about 290 votes in the 435-member House for passage. Republicans hold a 221-212 majority, with two vacancies.

Relying on Democratic votes and leaving his right-flank behind is something that the hard-right lawmakers have warned will risk Mr. McCarthy's job as Speaker. They are almost certain to quickly file a motion to try to remove Mr. McCarthy from that office, though it is not at all certain there would be enough votes to topple the Speaker.

"If somebody wants to remove because I want to be the adult in the room, go ahead and try," Mr. McCarthy said of the threat to oust him. "But I think this country is too important."

The quick pivot comes after the collapse Friday of Mr. McCarthy's earlier plan to pass a Republican-only Bill with steep spending cuts up to 30% to most government agencies that the White House and Democrats rejected as too extreme.

Death toll from Pakistan mosque blast rises to 59

Reuters
QUETTA

The death toll from a large blast at a mosque in Pakistan rose to 59 on Saturday as the government vowed to find the perpetrators and accused India's intelligence agency of being involved.

Friday's blast tore through a mosque in Mastung in the southern province of Balochistan after a bomber detonated his explosives near a police vehicle where people were gathering for a procession to mark the birthday of the Prophet Mohammad.

"Civil, military and all other institutions will jointly strike against the elements involved in the Mastung suicide bombing," Interior Minister Sarfaraz Bugti told media in Balochistan's capital, Quetta.

"RAW is involved in the suicide attack," he added, referring to India's Research & Analysis Wing (RAW) intelligence agency. He did not provide details or evidence on the alleged involvement.

India's Foreign Ministry and a government spokesperson did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

A second attack on Friday at a mosque in northern Khyber Pakhtunkhwa had killed at least 5 persons. The police on Saturday filed a report to launch an investigation, saying they had sent DNA from the suicide bomb attacker to be analysed.

No group has claimed responsibility for either attack. A surge in militant attacks in Pakistan's western provinces has cast a shadow on election preparations and public campaigning in the run-up to January's national vote, but until now the attacks had mostly targeted security forces.

Imran, ex-Foreign Minister guilty in cipher case: FIA

Press Trust of India
ISLAMABAD

Imran is accused of disclosing a secret diplomatic cable sent by the country's embassy in the U.S. last year in March

Pakistan's top investigation agency on September 30 declared former Prime Minister Imran Khan and ex-Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi guilty in a case related to the alleged disclosure of state secrets, popularly known as the cipher case.

The Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) submitted the chargesheet against Mr. Khan, the chairman of the Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) party and his deputy Mr. Qureshi, both currently detained in jail on judicial remand, to a special court established under the Official Secrets Act, the *Pakistan Observer* website reported.

Mr. Khan, 70, was arrested last month after a case was filed against him for allegedly violating the Official Secrets Act by disclosing a secret diplomatic cable (cipher) sent by the country's embassy in Washington last year in March.

The FIA has requested the court to start the trial of the PTI leaders and sentence them according to the law, it said.

List of accused

Mr. Qureshi, 75, is the vice chairman of PTI. Former general secretary of PTI Asad Umar has not been named in the FIA's list of accused, while former principal secretary Azam Khan has been presented as a strong witness against Imran Khan, GeoTV, reported and added that the challan also carries Azam Khan's statement.

U.K. government to 'support drivers' by pushing back on 'anti-car measures'

Agence France-Presse
LONDON

Britain's Conservative government on Friday announced new plans to "support drivers" and push back on "anti-car measures" as some Opposition-led areas move to impose restrictions on the use of motor vehicles in the name of environmental protection.

"The clamp down on drivers is an attack on the day to day lives of most people across the U.K. who rely on cars to get to work or see their families," Prime Minister Rishi Sunak said in a statement announcing the new plans.

"This week the U.K. government will set out a long-term plan to back drivers, slamming the brakes on anti-car measures across England. We are taking the necessary decision to back the motorists who keep our country moving."

Among the measures announced on Friday – two days ahead of the annual Conservative Party conference – were plans to review guidance on 20-mile-per-hour speed limits and "prevent their blanket use in areas where it's not appropriate".

15-minute cities

The document also takes aim at "15-minute cities", an urban planning concept that advocates putting essential services within walking or biking distance of residents to reduce pollution.

"The plans also aim to stop councils implementing so called '15-minute cities', by consulting on ways to prevent schemes which aggressively restrict where people can drive".

The announcement comes after the Welsh government, led by Labour First Minister Mark Drakeford, lowered the maximum driving speed in some residential areas from 30mph to 20mph.

Department of Health & Family Welfare
KARNATAKA STATE AIDS PREVENTION SOCIETY
Arogya Soudha, 4th Floor, 1st Cross, Magadi Road, Bangalore - 560 023.
Tel.: 080-2955 7021, e-mail : pdksaps@gmail.com

No: KSAPS/TI/01/2019-20 Date: 29.09.2023

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (Through e-procurement)

Inviting Expression of Interest called from NGOs / CBOs for providing services to implement HIV / AIDS Targeted (TIs) with highly vulnerable population groups. details available at **https://ksaps.karnataka.gov.in** The last date for submission of EOI on or before **21.10.2023**.

Sd/- Project Director
DIPR/CP/JA/1499/2023-24 Karnataka State Aids Prevention Society.

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Chief Health Officer (PH), Annex Building-3, 3rd Floor, BBMP Central Office, N.R. Square, Bangalore - 560 002.

No:CPMO/NUHM/PR/102/22-23/2023-24 Date: 29.09.2023

Notification

Third Stage Walk-in Process on Merit cum Roster & full contract basis under NLEP, NTEP, DMHP, NUHM, NTCP and RDH has been carried out for vacant posts of various groups from **06.03.2023 to 08.03.2023.** The provisional shortlist of the candidates selected as per the said notification on BBMP website **www.bbmp.co.in** on 18.08.2023 and issued a press release dated: 21.08.2023 as per reference (01) and give 15 working days (Date: 21.08.2023 to 07.09.2023) to file objections.

It is hereby informed to the concerned candidates and public that the final selection list has been published on the website of BBMP as no objections have been received to this list.

Sd/-
Chief Health Officer (PH)

KARNATAKA NEERAVARI NIGAM LIMITED
(A GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA ENTERPRISE)
Office of the Executive Engineer, KNNL, Quality Control Division Munirabad.

NO:EE/KNNL/QC/MBD/TS-3/VNC PKG-2/
NOTIFICATION/2023-24/543 Dated: 29.09.2023

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION (Through E-Procurement)

The Executive Engineer,Quality Control Division, KNNL, Munirabad on behalf of the Managing Director, Karnataka Neeravari Nigam Ltd invite bids on item rate basis from registered eligible consultants for the work **"CONDUCTING THIRD PARTY INSPECTION TO ENSURE QUALITY CONTROL & ASSURANCE FOR THE WORK OF MODERNISATION OF VIJAYANAGAR CHANNELS (PACKAGE-II) [INCLUDING WORKS IN TUNGABHADRA OTTER CONSERVATION AND HAMPI HERITAGE AREAS].."** coming under the jurisdiction of Assistant Executive Engineer ,KNNL,No.1 QC Sub Division Munirabad. Interested applicant may access bid documents from https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/ Website from Date:03/10/2023 11AM onwards. Deadline for submission of bid is 10/10/2023 upto 4 PM. For any Further Information contact the office of the Executive Engineer, through phone number ;- 08359-200610.

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
KNNL,Quality Control Division Munirabad
DIPR/Koppal/162/KSMCA/2023-24

Government of Karnataka
Rural Development & Panchayat Department
Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Division, Chitradurga
Phone No.: 08194-234488 e-mail: eerdwsd.chd@gmail.com

No.: R.D.W.S.&S.D./D/C/EE/B4/Tender/2023-24/729
Date: 27.09.2023

Tender Notice

On behalf of the Governor of Karnataka, Tender is invited in single and two cover system through e-procurement portal, subject to Standard Tender Documents KW – 2 & 3 from eligible class contractors registered with Superintending Engineer, Panchayat Raj Engineering Circle, Davanagere/ Chief Engineer, Panchayat Raj Engineering Department, Bengaluru, for 25 works upto amount Rs 1311.10 lakhs in the limits of Chitradurga, under Jal Jeevan Mission (J.J.M.) Scheme.
Last date for submission of Tender: 05.10.2023 up to 4.00 PM.
Date of opening Technical Bid: 06.10.2023 at 4.30 PM. and
Date of opening Financial Bid: 07.10.2023 at 11.00 am
Details of the works are published in website https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in and for further information contact Executive Engineer, R.D.W.S. & S. Division, Chitradurga during office hours.

DIPR/CTA/KSMCA/240/2023-24
Executive Engineer,
R.D.W.S. & S. Division, Chitradurga

KELADI SHIVAPPA NAYAKA UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURAL & HORTICULTURAL SCIENCES, Iruvakki, Shivamogga
Office of the Estate Officer, Iruvakki, Shivamogga District - 577412

Ph :9480838979, Email :eo@uahs.edu.in
No. : ಕೆಶಿನಾಕೃತೋವಿವಿ(ಇ)/ಆ.ಅ./ಡಿ.ಬಿ/ಟಿ.ಎನ್–14/2023-24
Date: 29.09.2023

TENDER NOTIFICATION

Regarding Erection of pandal and stall for Agriculture and Horticulture Expo for the year 2023 to be held in Keladi Shivappa Nayaka University of Agricultural and Horticultural Sciences, Shivamogga and other works related to the pandal.

(Only through e-procurement portal)

Tenders have been invited from the eligible firms and agencies for erection of pandal and stall for Agriculture and Horticulture Expo and other works related to the pandal for the year 2023 to be held in Keladi Shivappa Nayaka University of Agricultural and Horticultural Sciences, Shivamogga. Tender notification, schedule and tender details are available in the website : https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in. EMD shall be paid as per e-procurement payment mode. **Tender schedules are as follows:** (1) Last date and time for submission of tender: **11.10.2023 at 4.00 P M** (2) Date and time of opening of Technical bid : **12.10.2023 at 4.30 P M** (3) Date and time of opening of Financial bid : **13.10.2023 at 10.00 A M.**
Details can be had from the office of the undersigned during working hours. Tenderers need to register with e-procurement portal and to obtain user ID and password for participating in e-procurement portal. For more details, contact e-portal helpline No.: +91 8046010000 and +91 806894877 and e-mail : hphelpdesk.blr.intarvo.com on all working days and the Estate Officer, Keladi Shivappa Nayaka University of Agricultural and Horticultural Sciences, Iruvakki, Sagar Taluq, Shivamogga – 577 412. Contact No. 9480838204.

Sd/- Estate Officer
DIPR/SMG/No.104-09 zenkar/2023-24 Keladi Shivappa Nayaka University of Agricultural and Horticultural Sciences, Iruvakki, Shivamogga

Genes fuel antibiotic resistance in Yemen cholera epidemic

The Hindu Bureau

Genes imparting resistance to multiple antibiotics emerged in the *Vibrio cholerae* bacterial strains responsible for the ongoing Yemen cholera epidemic around 2018, following changes in antibiotic treatment, according to a study published in *Nature Microbiology*. These findings emphasise the importance of tracking pathogen genomes to monitor the emergence of multidrug-resistant strains that increase human morbidity and mortality. The cholera outbreak in Yemen, which began in 2016, is the largest in modern history and antibiotic resistance has become widespread among *V. cholerae* bacteria since 2018. Drug resistance in bacteria may develop and spread via spontaneous mutations or by the acquisition of resistance-conferring genes.

New plasmid

Florent Lassalle from the Wellcome Sanger Institute, Hinxton, the U.K. and others analysed 260 epidemic *V. cholerae* genomic DNA samples collected in Yemen between 2018 and 2019. The authors report the presence of a new plasmid – a small, circular DNA molecule – in *V. cholerae* from late 2018 to the bacterial strains behind the epidemic. This plasmid introduced genes encoding resistance to multiple clinically used antibiotics, including macrolides (such as azithromycin). The plasmid became widely spread and was found in all epidemic *V. cholerae* samples tested by 2019, coinciding with macrolide antibiotics being used to treat pregnant women and children with severe cholera. The authors also found the multidrug-resistance plasmid in less pathogenic, endemic cholera strains, suggesting that epidemic and endemic *V.cholerae* strains might exchange plasmids and antibiotic-resistance capabilities. The authors conclude that clinical macrolide use and genetic exchange may have contributed to multidrug-resistance spread among Yemeni *V-.cholerae* lineages. They argue that the emergence of the multidrug-resistant pathogen demonstrates the importance of continuing genomic surveillance of the Yemen cholera outbreak.

Why BSL-3 lab for Nipah confirmation is unnecessary

Samples sent for Truenat testing are collected in a transport medium, which inactivates the virus; inactivated viruses are not viable and so cannot infect people; a BSL-3 facility for virus confirmation is thus redundant

R. Prasad

On September 11, samples sent to Calicut Medical College for testing were confirmed as Nipah virus. But only on September 20, after 323 samples were tested for the virus, did ICMR permit Kerala to use Truenat for Nipah testing. Even the belated permission came only after Kerala "strongly demanded" for Truenat during discussions with ICMR, Health Minister Veena George said during a press conference.

Truenat for Nipah virus testing was granted an emergency use authorisation (EAU) by the Indian regulator in September 2021 days after the third Nipah outbreak in Kerala. The EAU was based on validation of the Truenat test to detect the virus and the Trueprep AUTO lysis buffer (to inactivate the virus) by NIV Pune in 2018 and 2019 in Kerala and external validation at an institute in Dhaka, Bangladesh. As per a 2021 published paper, the sensitivity of Truenat was 97% and specificity was 100%. Trueprep AUTO lysis buffer was found to be very effective in inactivating the Nipah virus. An April 2020 study at NIV found both the lysis buffer and the transport medium highly efficient at inactivating the SARS-CoV-2 virus.

"The Truenat test for Nipah virus was already developed and ready as our idea is to work on diseases that have the potential to become a pandemic if not diagnosed early," says Dr. Chandrasekhar Nair, Director and Chief Technology Officer at Molbio Diagnostics Pvt Limited.

Despite the validation as a point-of-care test by NIV and an EUA granted in 2021, ICMR did not permit Kerala to use Truenat till September 2023. A senior scientist based in Kerala tells *The Hindu* that it is the Indian regulator and not the ICMR that is authorised to approve the use of Truenat for Nipah testing. With an EUA granted in 2021, States should have been free to use Truenat without any permission from ICMR, the scientist says.

BSL-2 facilities

"Truenat will be used for testing Nipah virus at five government medical colleges that have a BSL-2 facility with BSL-3 practices. Private medical colleges that have similar facilities will also be allowed to use Truenat," says Hanish Mohammad, Principal Secretary (Health), Kerala.

"Testing for Nipah using Truenat is being considered only for hospital-based BSL-2 facilities and not in stand-alone labs," says Dr. Aravind R, Head of Infectious Diseases, Government Medical College, Thiruvananthapuram. According to him, allowing only hospital-based BSL-2 facilities to test for Nipah is to discourage people from walking in to get tested at stand-alone labs. "The decision to test for Nipah should be taken by doctors, not patients. There should be a pretest probability of a patient being positive for Nipah," says Dr. Aravind.

Virus confirmation

ICMR and NIV are very clear that for an official confirmation, the sample must be tested only in a BSL-3/4 facility, says Mr. Mohammad. The insistence on a BSL-3 facility for virus confirmation is based on the 2021 government of India memorandum, he adds. However, India's rules on a BSL-3 facility for Nipah virus confirmation run counter to the WHO's draft high priority diagnostics for Nipah. The WHO document mentions that Nipah can be confirmed by detection of the virus RNA or viral culture. For a reference laboratory setting, the "diagnostic options for confirmation can include laboratory NAT, NPT/POC NAT assays, virus isolation (if BSL-3/4 available), and serum neutralisation assays". Of the diagnostic options for Nipah confirmation, WHO has included both near-patient testing (NPT) and point-of-care (POC) NAT testing; Truenat is a POC NAT test. The WHO also clearly mentions that BSL-3/4 facility is needed only when virus isolation is undertaken; isolation of viruses is only for research purposes.

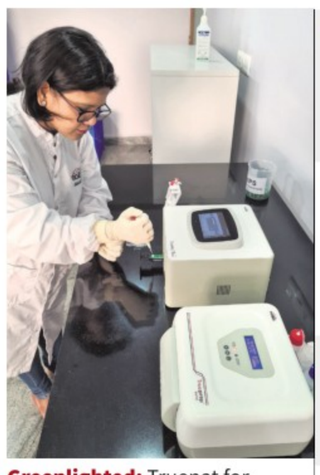
"Viruses are sometimes cultured [for detection]. This used to be done a lot before nucleic acid-based amplification became available... Used much less now (and viral culture experts and lines are hardly available)," says microbiologist Dr. Gagandeep Kang, former professor at CMC Vellore. Dr. E. Sreekumar, Director of the Institute of Advanced Virology, Thiruvananthapuram says: "All labs in India, including the NIV's, use only RT-PCR for Nipah diagnosis, be it for initial detection or confirmation. No other methods are used now."

Usually, it is the same specimen that has been used for testing that is sent for virus confirmation, says Dr. Aravind. Dr. Sreekumar adds: "At present, ICMR encourages collection of only live samples so that they can do both diagnostic testing and research by virus isolation in the same sample. This [collection of live samples] prevents early detection as local labs are prevented from doing testing." But now, by default, all samples sent for Truenat testing are collected in a transport medium, which inactivates the virus. Since inactivated viruses are not viable, they cannot infect people. This makes a BSL-3 facility redundant for virus confirmation. Relying on BSL-2 labs for testing and confirmation can speed up the process as many such facilities in Kerala can be roped in.

Responding to a question on why ICMR insists on a BSL-3 facility for Nipah virus confirmation despite the virus being already inactivated, Dr. Rajiv Bahl, Director-General of ICMR says: "BSL-3 facilities have specialised equipment and containment protocols to prevent the release of infectious materials. This is essential in case the virus is not fully inactivated or if there are any procedural errors during diagnosis."

Needless precautions delay timely action

WHO clearly mentions that BSL-3/4 facility is needed only for Nipah virus isolation; Nipah virus is isolated only for research purposes



Greenlighted: Truenat for Nipah virus testing was granted an EUA in 2021.

- BSL-3 facilities are designed to handle clinical samples to further minimise the risk to the laboratory personnel and avoid any accidental release into the environment
- Till the introduction of Truenat, ICMR encouraged collection of only live samples so both diagnostic testing and research by virus isolation can be done using the same sample
- All samples to be tested using Truenat need to be collected in a lysis buffer, which inactivates the virus immediately
- Inactivated virus is no longer viable and hence cannot multiply or cause infection even if exposed to it
- A BSL-3 facility for Nipah confirmation is therefore not necessary as the virus is inactivated
- NIV had validated Truenat for testing Nipah virus and Trueprep AUTO lysis buffer to inactivate the virus in 2018 and 2019 in Kerala and externally validated them in Dhaka
- An April 2020 study at NIV found both the lysis buffer and the transport medium highly efficient at inactivating the SARS-CoV-2 virus
- Relying on BSL-2 labs for testing and confirmation can speed up the process as many such facilities in Kerala can be roped in

TB patients must also be screened for prediabetes

Maitri Porecha

"One in two tuberculosis patients either has diabetes or pre-diabetes, that is every other TB patient has some sort of glucose metabolism disorder, shows our research," says Dr. Vijay Viswanathan, senior Chennai-based diabetologist and President of Prof. M. Viswanathan Diabetes Research Centre.

Dr. Viswanathan has done extensive research on TB-diabetes as a part of the government-run Regional Prospective Observational Research for TB (RePORT) India consortium.

Dr Viswanathan's latest study published in *Diabetes and Metabolic Syndrome* in May this year studied patients with HBA1C levels between 5.7 and 6.4, or elevated fasting glucose levels between 100 and 125 mg/dl.

Nearly 570 new TB cases were enrolled from government-run TB units in North Chennai, Tamil Nadu. Of these, 187 patients were included in the study with 76 TB patients who had normal blood sugar (normoglycemia) levels and 111 TB patients having HBA1C levels between 5.7% to 6.4% indicating pre-diabetes.

At the end of the intensive phase of TB treatment, while only 8.6% with normoglycemia remained sputum smear TB positive, nearly 23.8% TB patients with pre-diabetes remained sputum smear TB positive. "Treatment outcomes like relapse and death were relatively higher among people with TB pre-diabetes," Dr Vishwanathan says. Higher rate of deaths occurred in TB pre-diabetes group (6.3%) compared to the TB normoglycemia group (1.3%).

Screening for pre-diabetes at the time of TB diagnosis, more careful monitoring during and after TB treatment is the need of the hour, he says. Annual screening for diabetes among those people who had pre-diabetes at the time of TB diagnosis may help them intervene at an early stage to prevent or delay development of diabetes.

Elimination of TB by 2025 will be an elusive goal in the absence of robust policies to screen pre-diabetes and diabetes in TB patients. ISTOCKPHOTO

But currently pre-diabetic TB population falls through the cracks of the National TB Elimination Programme (NTEP). They are not easily picked up for focussed care as almost all diabetes screening for TB is done in states through random blood sugar testing which is also known as the finger prick method.

"A random blood sugar test is effective for patients who have blood sugar over 200 mg/dl with symptoms like excessive urination and weight loss. However, most pre-diabetes patients don't have symptoms, they may later turn diabetic and remain asymptomatic for years," Dr Vishwanathan explains.

Testing for fasting blood sugar must be included in diabetes screening programmes for TB patients, he says. Cost of processing a fasting blood sugar sample will be similar to that of a Random Blood Sugar test. In the retail market, the cost for one such test is Rs 50 to Rs 100. In public health settings, costs will further decrease.

Only in screened patients with above 100 mg/dl fasting blood sugar patients, should an oral glucose tolerance (OGT) test be done," he says.

"End TB goal by 2025 is impossible without reducing the prevalence of diabetes and pre-diabetes patients. Because if you don't do that, there are still 50 to 100 million people with glucose metabolic disorders," he told *The Hindu*.

SNAPSHOTS

Genomic markers of disease resistance in staghorn corals

A genome-wide survey of highly endangered staghorn coral in the Caribbean has identified 10 genomic regions associated with resilience against white band disease - an emergent infectious disease responsible for killing up to 95% of Caribbean Acropora species, including staghorn corals (*A. cervicornis*). The findings could be used as a conservation tool to improve disease resistance in the wild and nursery stocks of staghorn corals used to repopulate damaged coral reefs throughout Caribbean waters.

Fungal pathogen's sticking power, virulence uncovered

An uncharacterised adhesin protein specific to a human fungal pathogen plays a crucial role in the fungus's ability to colonise a variety of living and non-living surfaces, and in its virulence. "The findings [about *Candida auris*] offer insight into the genetics and molecular mechanisms by which [this fungus] mediates surface association, a trait critical to the increasing disease burden of this emerging pathogen," the authors write in *Science*. *C. auris* has become increasingly responsible for life-threatening infections.

Loci play prominent role in Darwin's finch evolution

Genome sequencing of nearly 4,000 of Darwin's finches has uncovered how a very small number of genetic loci contribute to the genetic potential for rapid adaptive radiation in these birds. The findings reveal new insights into the genetic basis of evolutionary change and suggest that loci of large effect may play an underappreciated role in adaptive evolution. The authors identified six loci with large effects that explain 45% of the variation in heritable beak size of *G. fortis*.

Question Corner

Dogma challenged

With no central brain, can jellyfish learn from past experiences?

Even without a central brain, jellyfish can learn from past experiences like humans, mice, and flies. The researchers trained Caribbean box jellyfish (*Tripedalia cystophora*) to learn to spot and dodge obstacles.

The study published in *Current Biology* has challenged previous notions that advanced learning requires a centralised brain and sheds light on the evolutionary roots of learning and memory. No bigger than a fingernail, these seemingly simple jellies have a complex visual system with 24 eyes embedded in their bell-like body.

Living in mangrove swamps, the animal uses its vision to steer through murky waters and swerve around underwater tree roots to snare prey. Scientists demonstrated that the jellies could acquire the ability to avoid obstacles through associative learning, a process through which organisms form mental connections between sensory stimulations and behaviours.

Readers may send their questions / answers to questioncorner@thehindu.co.in

How important is the first asteroid sample?

What was the NASA spacecraft's mission? Will the sample help space agencies destroy doomsday rocks?

Prakash Chandra

The story so far:

On September 24, NASA's asteroid-hunting spacecraft OSIRIS-REx – short for Origins-Spectral Interpretation-Resource Identification-Security-Regolith Explorer – dropped a capsule containing a sample of rocks and dust that it had collected from the asteroid 101955 Bennu over the earth, which landed in the Utah desert. Going ahead, scientists will catalogue the capsule's contents, study its composition, and share pieces of it with their peers around the world. Many believe that along with comets, carbon-rich asteroids like Bennu may have seeded the earth with primordial life as they smashed into the young planet more than four billion years ago.

What was OSIRIS-REx's mission?

Launched in 2016, the OSIRIS-REx spacecraft completed a series of complex manoeuvres to propel itself into orbit around Bennu two years later. Mission controllers had to carefully choreograph this celestial waltz as Bennu's frail gravity – so weak that it allows boulders to roll uphill on the asteroid – could barely keep OSIRIS-REx bound in an orbit just 2 km high. The mission almost failed when the asteroid's craggy surface rendered OSIRIS-REx's height-measuring instrument useless. Controllers were forced to send the probe on an intricate holding pattern around Bennu for almost two and a half years as they tried to find a different landing spot. They did this on October 20, 2020, and OSIRIS-REx landed there just long enough to scoop some rocks and dust.

> While the chances of a serious earth-asteroid collision are small, the odds averaged out over time of humans being killed by such an impact are actually the same as being killed in an air crash

To prevent the probe from sinking through the rubble-strewn surface, the probe's touch-and-go Sample Acquisition Mechanism used a blast of nitrogen gas to avoid contaminating the debris flying everywhere, including into the spacecraft's sample collection chamber. After its successful swoop, OSIRIS-REx took off and gradually pulled away from the asteroid's gravity before setting course for earth.

After releasing its sample capsule above our planet's atmosphere last Sunday, the spacecraft will fire its engines to shake free from the earth's gravity and begin a new journey – to study another asteroid, Apophis, in 2029.

Why do scientists want to study Bennu?

The asteroid belt between Mars and Jupiter is inhabited by thousands of space rocks, ranging from pebbles to the 800-km-wide Ceres. A part of the orbits of some of these bring them closer to the sun than Mercury. Sometimes, such eccentric orbits also bring them quite close to the earth. Planetary defence experts are keen to know more about such near-earth asteroids (NEA), because it isn't improbable for the earth to be threatened with a collision someday.

While the chances of a serious earth-asteroid collision are small, the odds averaged out over time of humans being killed by such an impact are actually the same as being killed in an air crash. The problem is that even if these rocks don't directly threaten the earth, planetary gravitation can cause their paths to change with each orbit. Of the greatest concern are asteroids wider than a kilometre that stray into a collision course with the earth. If one of these hunks of stone and metal strikes the planet, several cities would be rapidly flattened. So space agencies have invested in plans to intercept such doomsday rocks, deflecting them away or destroying them altogether.

Can we mine asteroids?

Another reason, apart from planetary security and the origins of life on the earth, to study asteroids like Bennu is the possibility of mining them. NASA's Galileo (launched in 1989) and NEAR Shoemaker (1996) and Japan's Hayabusa 1 (2003) and Hayabusa 2 (2014) missions have found that many asteroids are solidified debris from supernovae, and are made of the same stuff as the solar system: dust, rocks, water ice, and an alloy of iron, nickel and cobalt – a sort of natural steel.

This material can be extracted from asteroids; we can also tap the water present in them in the form of permafrost or saturated minerals as a resource in space. NEAs could be better pit stops than the moon where space missions can drop payloads off to be returned to the ground. But, as OSIRIS-REx principal investigator Dante Lauretta said, "challenges like low gravity, lack of atmosphere, and radiation exposure need to be overcome" first. For now, all eyes are on the regolith that OSIRIS-REx has brought back to the earth from Bennu, to help scientists look back in time to the violent birth of the solar system. Maybe, the material could contain organic molecules that help us tell the story of how life on earth began.

Prakash Chandra is a science writer.

The concerns of using Aadhaar in welfare

Why does the government favour Aadhaar-based authentication for rations under the public distribution system and government-to-citizen cash transfer programmes such as wage payments in MGNREGA? What are some common problems faced by rights-holders?

Rajendran Narayanan

The story so far:

On September 21, credit rating agency Moody's Investor Service released a report, 'Decentralised Finance and Digital Assets,' which advocates for decentralised digital identity systems instead of centralised biometric systems like India's Aadhaar. Referring to "security and privacy vulnerabilities posed by centralised ID systems like Aadhaar", the report states "the [Aadhaar] system faces hurdles, including the burden of establishing authorisation and concerns about biometric reliability."

How has India reacted?

The government has strongly refuted these claims. Terming Aadhaar as "the most trusted digital ID in the world," the government stated that "it is evident that the authors of the report are unaware that the seeding of Aadhaar in the MGNREGS database has been done without requiring the worker to authenticate using their biometrics, and that even payment to workers under the scheme is made by directly crediting money in their account and does not require the worker to authenticate using their biometrics."

What was the rationale for Aadhaar?

Aadhaar is a unique identification number given to all Indian residents by the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI). During enrolment for Aadhaar, demographic details of individuals along with their biometric fingerprints and iris scans are collected as they are considered to be unique identifiers of individuals. These details are stored in the Aadhaar database. The objectives of UIDAI were to ensure that all residents have a unique ID and to curb corruption in accessing welfare programmes by eliminating "ghost" and "fake" individuals. To understand this, consider accessing rations under the Public Distribution System. An individual is called a 'ghost' if they access rations in the name of a dead person, and a 'fake' if they access rations even though they are not officially entitled to it. To ensure that an individual accessing rations is not a ghost or a fake, the government linked the database of ration card holders with the Aadhaar database. When an individual tries to access rations at a ration shop, they have to do so using their biometrics or iris scans with the ration dealer. These are then sent through the internet to the Aadhaar database for authentication.

> Lack of reliable internet, fading fingerprints among daily wage workers, lack of phone connectivity to get an OTP are common problems

The government favours Aadhaar for several other government-to-citizen cash transfer programmes. By removing ghosts and duplicates, the government has claimed substantial savings in welfare schemes through the usage of Aadhaar.

Several risks: People with their Aadhaar cards in Tamil Nadu, 2022. FILE PHOTO

What is Aadhaar's role in cash withdrawals?

To direct a payment using Aadhaar for MGNREGA, there are at least three steps. First, a worker's Aadhaar number must be linked to her job card. Second, her Aadhaar must be linked to her bank account. Third, the Aadhaar number must be linked correctly through her bank branch with a mapper of the National Payments Corporation of India, which acts as a clearing house of Aadhaar-based payments. Aadhaar becomes the financial address of the individual and cash transferred by the government gets deposited to the last Aadhaar-linked bank account. Individuals can withdraw money from their Aadhaar-linked bank account from private banking kiosks or through private banking correspondents who use their point of sale (PoS) machines to authenticate individuals using their biometrics. This platform is known as the Aadhaar-enabled Payment System (AePS).

Why is Aadhaar's use concerning?

In the case of rations for example, several organisations and researchers have provided evidence demonstrating that the main type of corruption is quantity fraud, which happens when, say the entitlement for a ration card holder is 35 kg of rice but the dealer only gives 30 kg. Aadhaar has no role in either detecting or preventing this fraud. In many rural areas, people have to make multiple trips to ration shops, to authenticate with no guarantee that the authentication will work. Lack of reliable internet, fading fingerprints among daily wage workers, lack of phone connectivity to get an OTP etc. lead to denials. The data on the number of attempts to authenticate and the extent of authentication failures are not public. A report by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) from 2022 states "UIDAI did not have a system to analyse the factors leading to authentication errors."

In Aadhaar-based payments, error in any step results in payment failures. Different spellings in the job card and in the Aadhaar database can result in authentication failures. Most workers are unaware which account their Aadhaar was last linked to as financial institutions in rural areas tend to coerce workers to link their Aadhaar with bank accounts without consent. This leads to wages getting diverted to some account without the worker's knowledge. For example, Aadhaar payments of people got redirected to Airtel wallets causing much havoc. Misdirected payments through Aadhaar are difficult to detect and are nearly impossible to resolve. These happen when one person's Aadhaar number gets linked to somebody else's bank account. Researchers such as Jean Drèze, Reetika Khera, Rahul Lahoti and Anand Venkatnarayanan have demonstrated that the savings claims of the governments are misleading. Obtained through RTIs, the government has also claimed that using Aadhaar in MGNREGA has reduced delays in wage payments. A recent working paper using 31 million MGNREGA wage transactions demonstrates no statistical evidence of these claims and points to lack of sufficient funds as the reasons for delays.

What are some security concerns with Aadhaar?

Banking correspondents using the AePS operate without any accountability framework. Some of them ask individuals to biometrically authenticate multiple times. Each authentication gives access to the banking correspondents to operate the individual's bank account. Several studies and news reports have highlighted how using AePS, money from workers' accounts have been withdrawn or that they have been signed up for government insurance programmes without consent. The ₹10 crore scholarship scam in Jharkhand from 2020 exemplifies this.

What is the current impasse?

The government's push to make Aadhaar-based payments mandatory in MGNREGA has faced resistance from workers and field officials. A recent paper by Chakradhar Buddha and Laavanya Tamang in the *Economic & Political Weekly* show that job cards of several active workers have been deleted on grounds of being "ghosts." Based on such dilutions of accountability in welfare due to Aadhaar, critics are concerned about the government's intentions of linking voter IDs with Aadhaar.

The writer teaches at Azim Premji University, Bengaluru, and is affiliated with LibTech India

Is there a TB drugs shortage in India?

What is the government position and what is the situation on the ground? Which are the States reporting limited stocks of key medicines to treat tuberculosis? What is being done to address issues of low supplies? What has WHO said about the depleting stocks?

R. Prasad

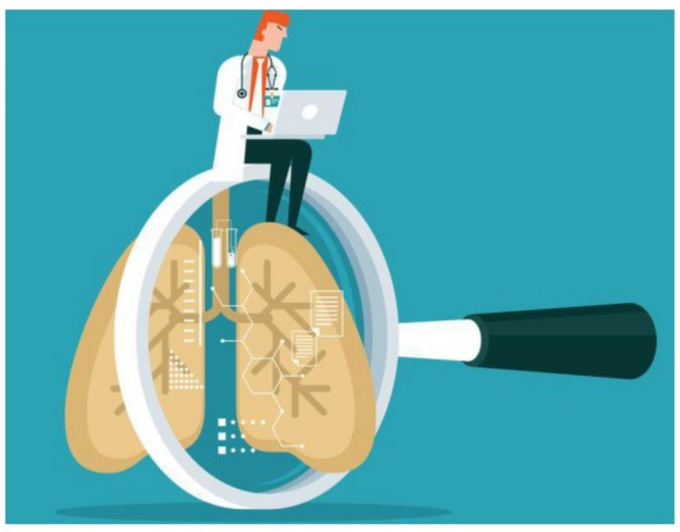
The story so far:

TB drug shortage began last year when Rifampicin – a medicine used for treating drug-sensitive TB – was not available in many parts of India. Since June this year, three important medicines used for treating drug-resistant TB – Linezolid, Clofazimine, and Cycloserine – too faced a stockout. On September 26, a PIB press release said that some media reports alleging shortage of anti-TB drugs in India are "vague and ill-informed, without any specific information on the availability of anti-TB medicines in stock". But in the same release, it also said that "in rare situations, States were requested to procure few drugs locally for a limited period by utilising the budget under National Health Mission (NHM) so that individual patient care is not affected."

Is the news about TB drugs shortage true?

On August 23, *The Hindu* reported the Tamil Nadu State TB Officer Asha Frederick saying that the Union government had "not supplied adequate doses of Rifampicin and some drugs used for treating people with multidrug-resistant TB (MDR-TB), and the States have been asked to procure the drugs themselves but no additional funding has been provided". Several media reports quoting TB patients in different States facing drug shortage have also been published.

> 'The WHO is closely following the situation by visiting States and facilities'



GETTY IMAGES

On September 14, Dr. Tereza Kasaeva, Director, Global TB Programme at the World Health Organization, had written, saying: "We at WHO – across 3 level [sic] – are also deeply concerned and closely following the situation with the TB drug stockouts." She also said: "Our colleagues from WHO country office are in contact with the Government of India and have visited at least four States this month to evaluate the situation on ground and support. We've been informed that actions are underway." She ends the mail addressed to Lucica Ditiu, Executive Director of the Stop TB Partnership, and others, saying: "We agree with you that there are some systemic issues that allow stockouts [to] happen periodically. These issues should be urgently addressed and avoided in future." The same day, Lucica Ditiu of Stop TB Partnership in an email said: "The situation [in India] is worrying and... the MoH [Ministry of Health]... are aware as well."

On September 21, in response to a query from Banjot Kaur of *The Wire* during the WHO virtual presser, Dr. Kasaeva said: "We are aware and noted with concern the recent reports of shortage of TB drugs affecting some provinces and facilities in India. The WHO country and regional offices are closely following this situation by visiting States and facilities... The assessment is still going on... We are working closely with the government and partners and this unfortunate situation will be sorted out soon... by the end of this month or beginning of next month."

Has the government procured TB drugs?

In a September 26 press release, the government claimed that all drug-sensitive TB drugs are "available with sufficient stocks ranging six months and above". In the case of drug-resistant TB drugs, it shared the stocks available at the national level and in Maharashtra without explicitly saying how long the stocks would last.

Based on the stocks of MDR-TB drugs said to be available in Maharashtra in the press release, Vaishnavi Jayakumar, a member of ISthmUS (a pan-Indian network of volunteers focusing on life-sustaining medical supply access during a crisis), pointed out in a tweet that Maharashtra has less than a month's stock of two MDR-TB drugs. While 79,926 capsules of Clofazimine were said to be available in stock, she pointed out that the monthly requirement was 97,408; the stock available would not last even a month. In the case of Linezolid, the stock available in Maharashtra was put as 86,443 while 1,34,958 medicines are needed in a month. At the national level, she calculated the stocks of different MDR-TB drugs from the data of tenders available on the Central Medical Services Society (CMSS)'s website. While the stock of Clofazimine (100mg) as on September 26 was found to last for over three months, the stock of Cycloserine (250mg) would last only for one month and just over two months for Linezolid (600 mg).

Ms. Jayakumar told *The Hindu* that as per the 2021 guidelines for programmatic management of drug-resistant TB in India, the Centre procures TB drugs which remain at the Central Medical Services Society (CMSS) warehouse, and supplied to States when demands are raised. In the case of MDR-TB drugs, at the district level, the drugs are sorted keeping in mind the particular requirement of each MDR-TB patient, which is called a patient-wise box. "Such patient-wise boxes are to be prepared for each MDR-TB patient and handed over to them," she said. "Apart from the logistics of distributing the drugs to the States, the MDR-TB drug boxes for each patient have to be prepared. According to the 2021 guidelines, at the State-level, there should be two months' stock of medicines and one month stock of patient-wise boxes at a minimum. So a minimum stock of three months is needed, as per the guidelines."

Were there shortages of any other TB drugs?

Ms. Frederick told *The Hindu* in August that the short-course drug combination regimen of Isoniazid-Rifapentine given once weekly for 12 weeks (3HP) to prevent TB in people with latent TB infection was never supplied to States. The new drug regimen was launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in March this year.

Is this the first time that India has faced a nationwide TB drugs stockout?

No. In September 2021, India faced a shortage of MDR-TB drug Delamanid. In 2013, India faced a TB stockout of first-line TB drugs Rifampicin and Isoniazid, and paediatric TB drugs.

Asia's disputed waters

South China Sea

A recent dispute between China and the Philippines over a lagoon in the South China Sea turns the spotlight on simmering tensions in the strategic waters with ramifications to all countries in the Indo-Pacific region, including India

Ananth Krishnan

On September 25, the Philippines Coast Guard said it had removed barriers placed by Chinese vessels at the entrance to a lagoon off the Scarborough Shoal in the South China Sea, following the orders of President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. This came days after Chinese Coast Guard ships placed a 300-metre-long barrier to prevent the entry of boats from the Philippines, the latest in long-running tensions in the South China Sea.

The events of recent days have once again shone the spotlight on simmering tensions in the South China Sea and the wider ramifications of the dispute, which extend not only to the many claimants of the sea's islands and waters but to all countries in the Indo-Pacific region, including India.

The South China Sea is a strategic body of water abutting the Western Pacific. To its north lie China and Taiwan. On the west is the Indo-Chinese peninsula, including the long Vietnamese coast, Thailand, Malaysia and Singapore; Indonesia and Brunei open up to the southern parts of the sea; and finally to the east is the Philippines, which refers to the waters off its coast as the West Philippine Sea. As much as $3.37 trillion worth of trade passed through the South China Sea in 2016, estimated a report from the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS). The report said, citing the UN Conference on Trade and Development, that 80% of global trade by volume and 70% by value is transported by sea. Of the total volume, 60% passes through Asia, with the South China Sea "carrying an estimated one-third of global shipping". While a disruption in trade would certainly impact the world, China, the world's second-largest economy, would likely face the biggest impact. The CSIS report estimated that 64% of Chinese trade passes through the sea – the highest for any country. In contrast, 14% of U.S. trade passes through it.

The South China Sea dispute essentially revolves around multiple claims to the land features – islands and reefs – and associated territorial waters. Under the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), every state "has the right to establish the breadth of its territorial sea up to a limit not exceeding 12 nautical miles" and an Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) up to 200 nautical miles from the territorial sea baseline.

According to the Asia Maritime Transparency Initiative (AMTI), as many as 70 disputed reefs and islets are under contestation. The AMTI says China, Vietnam, the Philippines, Malaysia and Taiwan have built more than 90 outposts on these disputed features. Vietnam occupies "between 49 and 51 outposts spread across 27 features", including "facilities built on 21 rocks and reefs in the Spratly Islands". Vietnam and other countries have also reclaimed new land to build outposts on them – China's reclamation activities have especially changed the dynamics of the dispute given Beijing's resources and the speed and scale of reclamation work.

China, the AMTI says, has 20 outposts in the Paracel Islands and seven in the Spratlys, and has since 2012 exerted control of the Scarborough Shoal through "a constant Coast Guard presence". "Since 2013, China has engaged in unprecedented dredging and artificial island-building in the Spratlys, creating 3,200 acres of new land, along with a substantial expansion of its presence in the Paracels," the AMTI estimates. The Philippines, meanwhile, occupies nine features in the Spratlys and Malaysia occupies five. Taiwan maintains one outpost in the Spratlys on Itu Aba island, "the largest natural feature in the Spratlys". Taiwan has also reclaimed "eight acres of land to construct a new wharf, which was completed in late 2015".

Diplomacy and arbitration

Given the complexity of the disputes and the multiple claimants – most of which are members of ASEAN – talks to manage the South China Sea between China and ASEAN have focused on coming up with a Code of Conduct (CoC), which has proved elusive. ASEAN, given the disputes within, has been unable to come up with any joint front to negotiate with China, the biggest claimant both from the perspective of its military might and the extent of its claims.

In 2002, the Foreign Ministers of ASEAN and China adopted a Declaration on the Conduct of parties (DoC), which affirmed their "commitments to the peaceful settlement of disputes in accordance with international law, including UNCLOS". The DoC was also aimed at paving the way to a CoC, which is yet to materialise. Instead, disputes have only grown more acute. In 2013, Manila initiated arbitral proceedings against China under UNCLOS, claiming its actions had violated the convention. Beijing refused to participate, deeming the Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA) illegal.

A 2016 ruling from the PCA rejected China's "nine dash line". Marked on all of China's official maps, the line claims all of the South China Sea's islands and features. Left somewhat ambiguous is whether China also claims the entire waters within the line, or only the associated territorial seas of the land features. Chinese officials have never spelled out the exact claims, although they have insisted on "historical rights" to the "waters and islands".

The PCA ruling said China's claims were inconsistent with UNCLOS. While stating it did not take a position on matters of sovereignty of land features, the PCA tribunal "concluded that, to the extent China had historic rights to resources in the waters of the South China Sea, such rights were extinguished to the extent they were incompatible with the EEZ provided for in the convention". It also "concluded that there was no legal basis for China to claim historic rights to resources within the sea areas falling within the 'nine-dash line'". Further, it noted that under UNCLOS, "islands generate an exclusive economic zone of 200 nautical miles and a continental shelf" but "rocks which cannot sustain human habitation or economic life of their own shall have no exclusive economic zone or continental shelf".

Cat and mouse game

Beijing rejected the arbitration, and in response issued a white paper that claimed that "China's sovereignty and relevant rights and interests in the South China Sea have been established in the long course of history." As the claimants continue working towards a CoC, the cat and mouse game in enforcing claims is only set to continue, as evinced in the recent dispute at Scarborough Shoal.

Given the extraordinary maritime, strategic and commercial significance of these waters, it isn't only the direct claimants that have a stake in the future of the South China Sea. According to India's Ministry of External Affairs, at least 55% of India's trade passes through the South China Sea. Any future moves to control its passageways, let alone the potential for this continued jostling to snowball into a conflict, could disrupt global trade and the world economy on a scale far exceeding the impact of Russia's war against Ukraine.

THE GIST

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- As many as 70 disputed reefs and islets in the sea are under contestation. China, Vietnam, the Philippines, Malaysia and Taiwan have built more than 90 outposts on these disputed features
- China has 20 outposts in the Paracel Islands and seven in the Spratlys, and has since 2012 exerted control of the Scarborough Shoal through "a constant Coast Guard presence"

At an opportune moment

Jana Sena Party

The party founded by actor-turned-politician Pawan Kalyan wants to play a bigger role in Andhra Pradesh as the State is going to the polls next year

Appaji Reddem
V. Raghavendra

Almost 10 years ago, when Pawan Kalyan, the younger brother of 'megastar' and former union Minister K. Chiranjeevi, was in the prime of his film career, he took the plunge into politics by setting up the Jana Sena Party (JSP).

Today, the JSP is an emerging force in Andhra Pradesh, at least in the eyes of its alliance partner at the Centre, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), and the local friend, the Telugu Desam Party (TDP). The actor-turned-politician belongs to the Kapu community, which makes up about 24% of the population in the State. Owing to his cine glamour and popularity, the JSP enjoys some mass support.

Now, the JSP is seen as a key player in the State against the backdrop of the TDP's legal setbacks and the arrest of its supremo and former Chief Minister, N. Chandrababu Naidu. With more leaders in the TDP booked in multiple cases, the JSP is expected to play a larger role in filling the leadership vacuum in the State.

Mr. Kalyan was smitten by the "political bug" in 2008, when he set up the Common Man Protection Force with the objective of "serving society". Later, he went on to lead the youth wing of Mr. Chiranjeevi's Praja Rajyam Party (PRP), which won 18 seats in the 2009 Assembly election in united Andhra Pradesh.

After the PRP merged with the Congress in 2011, Mr. Kalyan went on to chart his own course. Three years later, on March 14, 2014, the JSP was launched. The party did not contest the election that year, having decided to focus on strengthening the organisation first.

The JSP had then extended support to the TDP-BJP combine, which won the election with a tally of 102 and four seats, respectively. The YSR Congress Party (YSRCP) came second with 67 seats. Mr. Kalyan started gaining political limelight with an invitation for a meeting of the BJP-led NDA.

In the 2019 Assembly election, however, the JSP could win only one seat, though it secured some 6% vote share. That was when the JSP had a tie-up with the Bahujan Samaj Party and the Left, both of which bit the dust. Mr. Kalyan was defeated in both the Gajuwaka and Bhimavaram constituencies.

The party's expectation at that time was that the JSP will at least win over a significant chunk of the votes from the Kapu community. But it did not happen as the YSRCP swept the polls, cutting across the traditional vote banks.

Rough patch

It has since been a rough patch for the JSP as its lone MLA (R. Varaprasad) switched his loyalty to the YSRCP. A reasonably good performance in the local elections in 2021 came as a solace for the JSP.

In early 2020, the JSP forged an alliance with the BJP but their relationship has not been smooth. The Centre's refusal to concede the Special Category Status (SCS) to Andhra Pradesh and its alleged indifference to other bifurcation-related demands of the State led to cracks in the alliance. From then, the two parties drifted apart as the BJP started working out its own strategy for the State.

The gap slowly became so wide that Mr. Kalyan had earlier this month declared his intention to contest the 2024 election with the TDP, which duly reciprocated his gesture, to achieve their common goal of defeating the well-entrenched YSRCP.

Nevertheless, it is still too early to predict the likely trajectory of the JSP as, just a day or two after announcing his tie-up with the TDP, Mr. Kalyan said in a party meeting that he was with Narendra Modi and would continue to be part of the NDA, sending conflicting signals about his plans.

The 2024 elections are going to be a do-or-die battle for the JSP, having spent years on the fringes of State politics. But the polls are also an opportunity for Mr. Kalyan to establish himself as an influential political figure in the State.

The JSP-TDP alliance is yet to take off with full force due to some teething troubles. Whether the BJP will come along remains to be seen, given its ambition to emerge as an alternative to the regional parties. The JSP leadership, however, is understood to be cautious in playing its cards at this opportune moment.

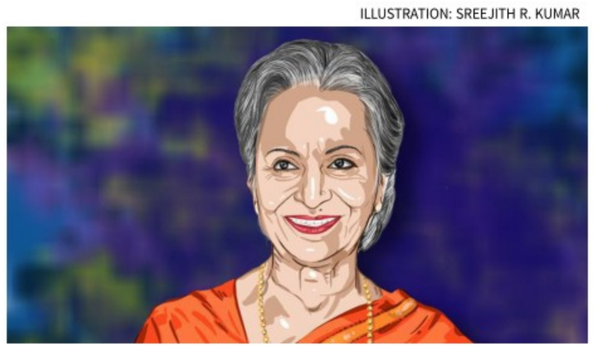
More than a poet's dream

Waheeda Rehman

The seasoned actor, whose grace and gravitas have enamoured and inspired generations, has been selected for the Dada Saheb Phalke Award

Anuj Kumar

ILLUSTRATION: SREEJITH R. KUMAR



The government finally wakes up to announce the Dada Saheb Phalke Award for seasoned actor Waheeda Rehman whose grace and gravitas have enamoured and inspired generations.

A natural performer, Ms. Rehman has essayed path-breaking roles and understated performances, all striking a chord with film lovers. Negotiating a space between the idealism of *Mother India* (1957) and the diffidence of *Main Chup Rahoongi* (1962), her Rosie (*Guide*, 1965) and Hirabai (*Teesri Kasam*, 1966) are deeply conflicted characters who eventually sacrifice their flawed relationships so that their art and soul can survive. No less is her poignant portrait of Reshma (*Reshma Aur Shera*, 1971), which won her the national film award. Reshma betrays her love for stopping bloodshed between clans.

In *Chaudhvin Ka Chand* (1960), Shakeel Budayuni describes Ms. Rehman's beauty as a *shayar's khwab* (poet's dream). Indeed, she is a picture of boundless charm and elegance but her poise emanates from her strong convictions and bold choices.

Hailing from a modest South Indian family that had lost its breadwinner early, Ms. Rehman declined to adopt a screen name. A symbol of our cultural diversity, the young Ms. Rehman could speak chaste Urdu and perform Bharatanatyam. When Guru Dutt reached out to the 17-year-old after watching her scintillating dance performance in the Telugu blockbuster *Rojula Marayi* (Days Have Changed), the title proved prophetic for the young Chand, her name of affection at home. The meeting with the maverick filmmaker not only transformed her life but she rose on the horizon when Hindi cinema was in the golden age.

In *C.I.D.*, her first Hindi film, Guru Dutt cast her in the supporting role of the other woman who seeks to manipulate the hero. It was a dress rehearsal for *Gulabo*, the golden-hearted hooker, the centrepiece of *Pyaasa* (1957). In arguably the most influential film of Indian cinema, she, together with her mentor, humanised a courtesan and set a template on which the hooker is not just a one-dimensional object of desire without any agency. She went on to play enchanting variants of Gulabo in Moni Bhattacharjee's *Mujhe Jeeno Do* (1963) and *Abhijan* (1962), Satyajit Ray's noirish adventure.

Top of the ladder

Before that, in Guru Dutt's self-reflective *Kaagaz Ke Phool* (1959), as Shanti, a raging film star, she refuses to be emotionally emasculated. Her innate sense of humour and irreverence comes through as the lively Jaba, a delightful contrast to Meena Kumari, in Abrar Alvi's *Sahib Bibi Aur Ghulam* (1962) and her love for adventure is on display in Biren Nag's *Bees Saal Baad* (1962), a haunting mystery.

She once told this journalist that once she liked a story, she never thought of the "repercussions" of playing a character. In fact, when asked about the one thing she liked about today's film industry, she said the "pressure of being a good person come what may have receded" on the Hindi film heroine.

She was at the top of the ladder in the 1960s but fame sat easy on her slender shoulders. Refusing to be bracketed just as the Guru Dutt protege, she worked with master filmmakers across camps. From Dilip Kumar to Amitabh Bachchan and Soumitra Chatterjee to Sanjeev Kumar, she performed opposite actors of different styles and generations with distinction. Apart from Guru Dutt, she forged an electric on-screen chemistry with Dev Anand and Sunil Dutt.

Ms. Rehman aged like fine wine to deliver some memorable performances in less-known films such as *Zindagi Zindagi*, *Namkeen*, and *15 Park Avenue*. When Rakeysh Om Prakash Mehra was looking for an actor who could justify the woman of fortitude in *Rang De Basanti* (2006), his only choice was Ms. Rehman. She described the film as her "swansong till date" but then there was Anup Singh's *The Song of Scorpions* (2017). According to Mr. Singh, Ms. Rehman used to be the first to get into costume and walk down deep into the desert. "When I would advise her to rest, she would say, 'light *jaa rahi hai...shoot karo* (the light is fading, let's shoot).'"

INBRIEF

U.S. FDA approves Granules' copy of hypertension drug

Granules India has received U.S. Food and Drug Administration's (U.S. FDA) approval for its abbreviated new drug application for Losartan and Hydrochlorothiazide Tablets USP, 50 mg/12.5 mg, 100 mg/12.5 mg, and 100 mg/25 mg. The approved product is indicated for treatment of hypertension and to reduce the risk of stroke in patients with hypertension. The annual U.S. market for Losartan and Hydrochlorothiazide Tablets is about $73 million, the company said.

Kalpataru Projects, arms bag orders worth ₹1,016 crore

Kalpataru Projects International Ltd. (KPIL) and its international subsidiaries have secured new orders/notification of awards worth ₹1,016 crore, KPIL said in a statement. These include orders in the T&D business of ₹552 crore in India and overseas markets and orders in B&F (buildings and factories) business in India of ₹464 crore. "With the above orders, our year-to-date FY24 order inflows stand at around ₹8,400 crore," said Manish Mohnot, MD & CEO, KPIL.

Azad Engineering files DRHP for ₹740 cr. initial public offer

Hyderabad-based complex and highly-engineered, precision-forged and machined-components maker Azad Engineering has filed Draft Red Herring Prospectus with the Securities and Exchange Board of India for an initial public offering (IPO). The IPO comprises a fresh issue of up to ₹240 crore and an offer for sale by existing shareholders amounting up to ₹500 crore. The proceeds will be used for capex, repay/pre-pay borrowings and general corporate purposes.

China's economy stabilises, factory activity rebounds

Sept. PMI shows factory activity expands for first time in six months, as per a survey of major manufacturers; non-manufacturing also improves

Reuters
BEIJING

China's factory activity expanded for the first time in six months in September, an official survey showed on Saturday, adding to a run of indicators suggesting the world's second-largest economy has begun to bottom out.

The purchasing managers' index (PMI), based on a survey of major manufacturers, rose to 50.2 in September from 49.7, according to the National Bureau of Statistics, edging above the 50-point level demarcating contraction in activity from expansion.

The PMI, the first official statistics for September, adds to signs of stabilisation in the economy, which had sagged after an initial burst of momentum early in the year when China's ultra-restrictive COVID-19 policies were lifted.

Preliminary signs of improvement had emerged in August, with factory output and retail sales growth accelerating while declines of exports and imports narrowed and deflationary pressures eased. Industrial profits jumped by a surprise 17.2% in August, reversing July's 6.7% decline.

"The manufacturing PMI, plus the good industrial profit figures, suggest that the economy is gradually bottoming out," said Zhou Hao, chief economist at Guotai Junan International.

China's non-manufacturing PMI, which includes sub-indexes for services sector and construction, also rose, coming in at 51.7 versus August's 51.0.

The composite PMI, including manufacturing and non-manufacturing activity, climbed to 52.0 in September, from 51.3.

Near-term data on the radar of economists include consumer spending for the longest public holiday this year. "Golden Week" kicked off on Friday with the Mid-Autumn Festival, which will be followed by the National Day break through Oct. 6.

Passenger travel by rail on Friday reached 20 million trips, a single-day record, state media reported, in a bullish start to what authorities forecast will be "the most popular Golden Week in history".

More stable economic indicators will be welcomed by policymakers as they grapple with a property sector debt crisis. Authorities have announced measures to shore up the market, including cutting mortgage rates, although the sector is far from being out of the woods.

Property risks

New home prices fell the most in 10 months in August and property investment declined for an 18th straight month.

China Evergrande Group, the world's most indebted developer with more than $300 billion in liabilities, said on Thursday its founder was being investigated over suspected "illegal crimes".

The ADB last week trimmed its 2023 growth forecast for China to 4.9%, from 5.0%, due to the property sector weakness.

Dragon stirs again

China's Sept. manufacturing PMI rose to 50.2, suggesting the world's second-largest economy has begun to bottom out

- Industrial profits had jumped by a surprise 17.2% in August
- Non-manufacturing PMI, which includes services and construction, also rose to 51.7 from 51.0
- Policymakers, however, continue to grapple with a property sector debt crisis

Online gaming cos to collect 28% on full bet from Oct. 1

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

From October 1, online gaming companies will charge 28% GST on full value of bets, while offshore platforms too would be required to have GST registration to operate in India.

The finance ministry late on Friday notified October 1 as the appointed date for the amended provisions in Central GST and Integrated GST laws to come into effect.

E-gaming firms, however, flagged that since many States were yet to pass amendments, this notification will create confusion.

Govt. issues quality control order for medical, agro textiles

M. Soundariya Preetha
COIMBATORE

The norms will be applicable to local and foreign makers who intend to export products to India

The Union Ministry of Textiles has introduced Quality Control Orders (QCOs) for six medical-textile and 20 agro-textile products that will come into effect from April 1, 2024.

An official press release said under the second phase of the QCO, the medical-textile products covered include sanitary napkins, medical textile shoe covers, and disposable baby diapers. The agro-products include agro nets, textile water storage tanks, and harvest nets.

It has exempted self help groups (SHGs) from the meditech QCOs and MSMEs involved in production of these products will be covered under the QCO from October 1, 2024.

The norms will be applicable to domestic and foreign manufacturers who intend to export products to India. In the third phase, about 30 more technical textiles items would be considered.

Brakes India eyes ₹10,000 cr. sales, says MD Sriram Viji

N. Anand
CHENNAI

Brakes India Ltd. is eyeing a total turnover of ₹10,000 crore in the next couple of years by increasing its overseas market share, expanding global footprint and introducing new products, said MD Sriram Viji.

"Last year, we posted a consolidated turnover of ₹6,900 crore, of which exports accounted for ₹1,500 crore," he said during an interaction. "We are hopeful of posting 10-14% growth during" FY24.

Stating that their ambitious plan depended on the domestic market's performance, he said if the economic growth rate was good, then the firm could achieve the numbers well before the target date.

Sriram Viji

Currently, the manufacturer and supplier of braking systems for light, heavy and commercial vehicles, has an export market share of 22% and the company wants to grow it to more than 30% in five years.

"Majority of our exports are from our foundry division," he said.

"The foundry has a total capacity of 1,80,000 tonne. We are working on future capex to enhance the capacity further. We will be one of the largest exporters of iron castings from India. Already, we have strong base with majority of exports going to Europe," Mr. Viji added.

Unlike other players, Brakes India plans to continue to develop products for internal combustion engine vehicles as well as for electric vehicles (EVs).

'Govt.'s focus on defence, rail sectors to be key growth drivers'

Defense, aerospace, rail/metro verticals to contribute at least 65% of the company's top line going forward, from about 50% currently

INTERVIEW

Santanu Roy

Lalatendu Mishra

BEML Ltd. is eyeing significant orders from the modernisation of Indian Railways' fleet and defense sector the PSU's CMD Santanu Roy said in an interview.

What has led to the turnaround at BEML?

The biggest driver has been the ecosystem for the PSUs in the last 8 to 9 years and the kind of ecosystem that has been provided to manufacturing companies like us. For companies like BEML which are the epitome of Make in India, the Atmanirbharta thrust of the government has worked well.

But It does not mean that we are getting orders on the platter. We are in three verticals: mining, defense, railways/ metro and more than 75-80% of our orders are executed through competitive bidding. Looking at the continued focus of the government on defense and rail sectors, these two verticals are going to be the key growth drivers for BEML for the years to come. We are also focusing on exports which will add to our top and bottom lines.

What is company's five-year roadmap?

Consolidation of our core capability and further growth in defense, aerospace and rail/metro verticals. I believe these verticals will contribute to at least 65% of the company's top line which is currently about 50%.

Diversification into areas which are organic to our present forte. This will further take the company for the next 10 years. The growth path remains the same. We are focusing more on strategic mobility for defense, mobility in urban transportation as well as the mainline transportation system and extraction of mineral wealth. Apart from building core capabilities in some kinds of armoured vehicles as well as going to organic sectors in mining, that is underground mining.

Going into the future we will have three to five signature moves which will define BEML for next 20 years from now.

What are your plans in aerospace?

As far as aerospace is concerned, we have taken baby steps up till now.

We are doing some small components for missile systems for air force applications and for ISRO. We are starting with unmanned aerial vehicles (UAV) wherein we have a partnership with IIT Kanpur. We have developed the first prototype which is under trials. It is a tactical UAV but it does not have any ammunition payload. You can call it a reconnaissance UAV.

The aerospace business will add 2-3% to our overall revenue. We will grow it slowly and we will concentrate more on our core capabilities.

The Indian Railways is modernising its fleet, what is the opportunity for you?

We have already supplied 17,000 coaches to the Indian Railways. Now the government is planning to replace majority of the trains with Vande Bharat. We are already manufacturing 10 rakes of Vande Bharat sleeper coaches and the first sleeper coach in the country will come from the BEML factory by Jan./Feb. 2024. That will be a game changer for us because the government is keen to get 800 sets of Vande Bharat trains by 2030.

Our capability in manufacturing stainless steel cars and experience in producing metro trains give us confidence that we can build aluminium trains.

'Indian coffee stirred global excitement, sure to fetch premium price globally'

Mini Tejaswi
BENGALURU

India's opportunity to host the 5th World Coffee Conference (WCC), the first time in Asia, will firmly lodge the country in the international coffee markets, said Vanúsia Nogueira, ED, International Coffee Organization. ICO is a London-based body set up under the aegis of the UN to highlight the economic importance of coffee.

The conference in Bengaluru brought together roasters, exporters, blenders, cafe chain owners, growers, and manufacturers of coffee processing and coffee making machinery/equipment, start-ups and funders.

'Extremely impressed'

More than 350 coffee experts from 80 coffee growing and consuming countries attended WCC, said Ms. Nogueira, adding that a majority of them were first time visitors to India as coffee buyers or business explorers and were "extremely impressed with the kind of professionalism that India has in managing and growing its coffee industry".

This year's WCC theme was 'Sustainability through Circular Economy and Regenerative Agriculture'.

India produced some 4,00,000 tonnes of coffee in 2022-23, contributing 3% to the global output.

The South Asian country is the seventh largest coffee producer following Brazil, Vietnam, Colombia, Indonesia, Ethiopia and the Honduras.

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Website: www.mmcri/karnataka.gov.in
E-mail: mmcrimysore@yahoo.com
No. Sup/CR/IOL/145/2023-24 Sepetember 01, 2023

SHORT TERM RE-TENDER NOTIFICATION

The Short term Re-Tender has been invited as per Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurements Act 1999 for the supply of I.O.L. implants and other Items for the period of one year to the K.R. Hospital of Mysore Medical College and Research Institute, Mysuru. for the period of One year or until further orders (which ever is earlier). The Tender documents may be downloaded from E-procurement website: https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in from 30.09.2023 and last date for submission of Tenders through E-procurement website is 16.10.2023 upto 5.00 PM. Those tenders which are not submitted with E.M.D. will be rejected. If, the last date for submission of Tender treated as holiday, the next working day will be considered as last date. No Notification in this regard will be announced.

DIPR/DDMYS/KSMCA/451/2023-24 **Sd/- Director and Dean**

ಪುರಸಭೆ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯ ಅಥಣಿ
ಡಾ॥ ಬಿ.ಆರ್ ಅಂಬೇಡ್ಕರ್ ವೃತ್ತದ ಹತ್ತಿರ, ಅಥಣಿ–591304
ಜಿ:ಬೆಳಗಾವಿ. ದೂರವಾಣಿ: 08289–251137
ವೆಬಸೈಟ್:www.athanitown.mrc.gov.in

ಕ್ರಮ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ:ಪುಸಅ:ಆಡಳಿತ:ವಾ.ಟೆಂಡರ:2023–24 ದಿನಾಂಕ:30–09–2023

॥ಟೆಂಡರ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ॥
॥ಇ–ಪ್ರೋಕ್ಯೂರಮೆಂಟ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಮಾತ್ರ॥
(ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕ ಅಧಿನಿಯಮ 2000 ರನ್ವಯ)

ಅಥಣಿ ಪುರಸಭೆಯ ಸನ್ 2023–24ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ ವಾರ್ಷಿಕ ನಿರ್ವಹಣೆಯ ಕುರಿತು ಪುರಸಭೆ ನಿಧಿಯ ಅನುದಾನದಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ/ ಪುರಸಭೆ ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ ನಿಧಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಈ ಕೆಳಗೆ ವಿವರಿಸಿದ ಸಾಮಗ್ರಿಗಳ ಪೂರೈಕೆ ಮತ್ತು ಸೇವೆಗಳ ಕುರಿತು ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ, ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ವಿದ್ಯುತ್ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ಜಿ.ಎಸ್.ಟಿ. ನೋಂದಾಯಿತ ಮಾರಾಟಗಾರರು ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಂದ ಕೆಜಿ–1,2,3ರ ಪ್ರಕಾರ ಟೆಂಡರನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಇಚ್ಛೆಯುಳ್ಳವರು ಇ–ಪ್ರೋಕ್ಯೂರಮೆಂಟ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಮಾತ್ರ ಟೆಂಡರ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಬಹುದು. ಸಾಮಗ್ರಿ ಪೂರೈಕೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಸೇವೆಗಳ ವಿವರ ಈ ಕೆಳಗಿನಂತಿದೆ.

ಪ್ಯಾ ನಂ:1:ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ನಂ:DMA/2023-24/IND0577, ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ (ರೂ.ಲಕ್ಷಗಳಲ್ಲಿ):56.25, ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ ಮೊತ್ತ (ರೂ.ಗಳಲ್ಲಿ): 140625.

ಟೆಂಡರ ಪಾರ್ಮ ವೆಬ್ ಸೈಟಿನಿಂದ ಡೌನ್ ಲೋಡ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳುವ ಪ್ರಾರಂಭದ ದಿನಾಂಕ:30–09–2023,ಭರ್ತಿ ಮಾಡಿದ ಟೆಂಡರಗಳನ್ನು ಅಪಲೋಡ್ (Upload) ಮಾಡುವ ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 16–10–2023, ಟೆಂಡರಗಳನ್ನು ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 17–10–2023ರ ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 12.00 ಘಂಟೆಯ ನಂತರ ತೆರೆಯಲಾಗುವುದು. ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ಡುಗಳನ್ನು ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 18–10–2023ರ ರಂದು, ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಾಗಿ Website:www.athanitown.mrc.gov.in & https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟನಲ್ಲಿ ನೋಡಬಹುದು

ಸಹಿ/–ಮುಖ್ಯಾಧಿಕಾರಿ ಪುರಸಭೆ ಅಥಣಿ
ಸಹಿ/–ಆಡಳಿತಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು ಪುರಸಭೆ ಅಥಣಿ ಹಾಗೂ ಉಪವಿಭಾಗಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು ಚಿಕ್ಕೋಡಿ

DIPR/BGM/RO-NO-466/KSMCA/2023-24

Department of Treasuries
5th & 6th Floor, KPCL Green Building, Palace Road, Bengaluru-01. Phone: 080-22867700, Fax: 080-22860142

Tender No. DOTR/2023-24/SE 0005

RFP for "Renewal of AMC for Storages"

Department of Treasuries invites tender for "Renewal of AMC for Storages".

Tender details are available at the e-Procurement platform & tenders shall be submitted electronically at **www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in.**

DIPR/CP/RO1493/AAPL/2023-24 **Sd/- for Commissioner of Treasuries.**

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer (Mahadevpura - Lakes), Room No.306, 3rd Floor, Annex-3 Building, BBMP Head Office, N.R. Square, Bengaluru - 560002.

No: EE-Mahadevpura-Lakes/TN-03/2023-24 Date: 30-09-2023

INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT)
(Through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal only)

Tenders on item rate basis are invited by the Executive Engineer (Mahadevpura - Lakes), BBMP for the work mentioned below from the registered Contractors of BBMP or equivalent registration with CPWD / KPWD / Railways / MES or any State Government Organizations.

Sl. No.	Name of the Work	Approx. Amount of Work (Rs. in Lakhs)	EMD Amount (Rs. in Lakhs)
1	Providing Chain Link Fencing to Lakes Boundary in Mahadevpura Zone. **(Call-2)**	**100.00**	**2.00**

Calendar of Events: **1)** Bid Documents can be downloaded from GOK Procurement Portal Website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in from 30-09-2023. 2)** Pre Bid Meeting will be held on **09-10-2023 at 15.00 Hrs. at the Office of the Executive Engineer (MDP - Lakes), BBMP. 3)** Tenders must be Submitted online through KPP Portal **on or before 16.00 Hrs on 19-10-2023. 4)** Technical Bids will be Opened on **20-10-2023 at 16.30 Hrs. in the Office of the Executive Engineer (MDP - Lakes), BBMP.** Further details can be had from the above office.

Sd/- Executive Engineer (Lakes-Mahadevpura), BBMP.

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Senior Assistant Director, Education, Head Office BBMP, N.R. Square, Bengaluru-560 002.
Ph: 080-22975728, e-mail ID: eoeducation@yahoo.in

No: BBMP/2023-24/IND0011 Date: 29.09.2023

TENDER NOTIFICATION

Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike invites **tender for Supply of Laboratory items, Charts, Specimens, Models and Chemicals to BBMP SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES** from eligible bidders.

Following are the events of Bid Process: 1) Date of commencement of download of tender document from eProcurement website: https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in : **29.09.2023 onwards.** 2) Date, Time & Venue of pre-bid meeting: **04.10.2023 at 11:30 a.m.** at Office of Senior Assistant Director, Head Office, BBMP, Bengaluru - 560 002. 3) Last date and time for uploading online queries in Karnataka Public Procurement Portal: **04.10.2023 upto 5:00 p.m.** 4) Last date and time for uploading of e-Tender in KPPP: **16.10.203 upto 5:00 p.m.** 5) Date and time of online opening of Technical Bids: **17.10.2023 at 5:30 p.m.** 6) Address for communication: Office of the Senior Assistant Director, BBMP, Bengaluru. Phone: 080-22112585/080-22975824/080-22975728 e-mail: eoeducation@yahoo.in

1) **Tender documents may be downloaded from website of Government of Karnataka, Karnataka Public Procurement Portal https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** 2) Other details can be seen in the tender documents.

Sd/-
Senior Assistant Director, BBMP

ON THE PODIUM

Sarabjot-Divya secure silver in mixed 10m air rifle team event

The Indian shooting duo of Sarabjot Singh and Divya Subbaraju secured a silver medal in the mixed 10m air rifle pistol team event at the ongoing Asian Games in Hangzhou on Saturday. With a total of 14 points, India fell just two points short of China, which secured a total of 16 points to take the gold.

ASSURED OF A BRONZE

Sutirtha-Ayhika pair stuns Chinese duo to enter the semifinals

Sutirtha Mukherjee and Ayhika Mukherjee beat World No. 2 China's Meng Chen and Yidi Wang 11-5, 11-5, 5-11, 11-9 to assure a bronze medal as the Indian duo stormed into the table tennis semifinals. **Other results:** Manika Batra lost to Yidi Wang (Chn) 2-4; Manush Shah & Manav Thakkar lost to Woojin Jang & Jonghoon Lim (Kor) 2-3.

WINNER-WINNER

Narender makes the semifinals; Preeti clinches Olympics quota

Indian boxer Narender beat Iran's Iman Ramezanpourdelavar 5-0 to storm into the semifinals of the +92 kg men's category in the Asian Games. Meanwhile, Preeti Pawar beat Kazakhstan's Zhaina Shekerbekova 4-1 to make the semifinals of the 54 kg women's event, also securing a Paris Olympics 2024 quota.

BACK WITH A BANG

Gum sets new world mark, wins the 49kg category gold

North Korea's Ri Song Gum won gold in the women's 49kg class, four years after her last international competition. She won gold on her second attempt in the clean and jerk at 122kg. She then drew gasps from the packed crowd as she raised the bar to 124kg, four kilos greater than had ever been lifted in that discipline before.

Abhay holds his nerve in stirring decider, India regains squash gold

The 25-year old plays out of his skin to douse a spirited challenge from Zaman to clinch a 2-1 victory over Pakistan after Ghosal levelled with a clinical win against Asim following Mangaokar's defeat in the first match of the final

ASIAN GAMES

Uthra Ganesan
HANGZHOU

Four cheers! Ghosal, Abhay, Mangaonkar and Harinder Pal proudly display their gold after India edged Pakistan in the final. PTI

At 10-8 in the fifth game with the gold medal on the line, it would have been natural for most Indians to assume the match was as good as over. Everyone around the squash centre court on Saturday here did too. Except that no one told Abhay Singh about it.

The 25-year old held his nerve, took off four straight points against Noor Zaman and then let out a huge roar, throwing his racket into the stands as the Indian men's team reclaimed the Asian Games gold in style, defeating Pakistan 2-1 in the decider of the final match.

"Thank you to everyone for being there. As much as it was quiet and haunting to be down for most of the match, all the shouting and the India cheering just pushed me to go. This one is for all the billion plus of us – we come here, forget about ourselves, fighting for our flag. There was a lot of noise when we lost to Pakistan three nights ago, I am pretty sure I won't hear any of that tonight," he said after the game.

Moments before, he had struggled to control his tears and emotions speaking back home and not ashamed to show it. The moment allowed him too. India had lost the opening tie 3-0 with Mahesh Mangaokar going down to Nasir Iqbal for the second time in three days, the match interrupted often but not as ill-tempered as the previous one. Saurav Ghosal got one back with a clinical 3-0 win against Mohd. Asim Khan as everything boiled down to the final match that lasted longer than the previous two combined.

Having lost to Noor in the group tie, it was clearly a grudge match for Abhay but, unlike before, he kept a lid on his feelings and hunkered down for the job at hand.

"I will be honest, there was a lot of talk from the other team three nights ago, some of it on social media. I am looking forward to some of that tonight as well. It was no banter, it was one-sided jabs. I have to give a lot of credit to Saurav. He's been to six Asian Games and he's been on my case night after night. I am young, I go on social media, checking out who's saying what. But he said just one thing – shut the noise. We did that and there you are," Abhay beamed.

It was not an easy match at any point. Abhay and Noor stayed level for the most part, never separated by more than a couple of points. The scoreline – 11-7, 9-11, 8-11, 11-9, 12-10 – reflects the same.

The 19-year old Pakistani, excellent in both attack and defence, retrieved everything the Indian threw at him even as Abhay kept the ball in play from every impossible corner of the court. It was a match of the finest margins and India came out on top.

Ghosal was statesmanlike. "We lost to Pakistan in the group stage and there is no embarrassment – they are a fantastic team, they proved it through the entire week and today. But we knew we would have a second chance in the tournament. We knew it would be hard and it was.

"Last time, both Abhay and Mahesh (Mangaokar) got emotionally charged against Pakistan and my belief is that that's not the way to play them. It is to be calm, almost robotic with no emotions – that's more powerful than anything you can show to the player, team or the crowd you play against, because it doesn't give them anything to feed off," he smiled, pride, relief and happiness all together on his face.

Medals Table

Country	G	S	B	T
China	114	68	34	216
Japan	28	38	39	105
South Korea	27	29	54	110
India	**10**	**14**	**14**	**38**
Uzbekistan	10	11	16	37
Thailand	8	4	14	26
Chinese Taipei	7	9	9	25
Hong Kong	5	15	18	38
North Korea	5	7	4	16
Iran	3	11	11	25

Bopanna-Rutuja pair brings home mixed doubles gold

Glittering display: Rutuja and Bopanna turned the tables on Huang and Liang after losing the first set. PTI

Press Trust of India
HANGZHOU

Rutuja Bhosale raised her game in nick of time while the seasoned Rohan Bopanna stayed solid with his big serves as India came back from a set down to win the tennis mixed doubles gold at the Asian Games here on Saturday.

The second-seeded Indian duo rallied to win the title clash 2-6, 6-3, [10-4] against Chinese Taipei's Tsung-hao Huang and Enshuo Liang.

Rutuja struggled with her serve and returns in the opening set and the Taipei players targeted her for some easy points, especially Huang who latched on to her feeble returns for easy volley winners.

The 27-year-old redeemed herself from a tight second-set situation, making some stunning returns. Bopanna said the changing sides for returns was game-changing as he moved to deuce side of the court.

"We had to understand each other, what our strengths are and what our weaknesses are. Today after we lost the first set I said, 'let's change sides to return'. We need something to change the match," said Bopanna.

Rutuja admitted that she was a bundle of nerves in the beginning of the match.

"I clearly had some nerves throughout the match, but not on the last point," she said.

THE INDIA SHOW

A look at some of the Indian performances on Saturday:
Athletics: Men: 400m (final): Ajmal (fifth); 1500m (round 1): Ajay (second in Heat 1), Jinson (fifth in Heat 2) — both enter final; 10,000m (final): Karthik (**Silver**), Gulveer (**Bronze**); Long jump (qualification, overall placing): 2. Sreeshankar, 6. Jeswin — both qualify for final.
Women: 100m hurdles (round 1): Jyothi (second in Heat 1), Nithya (seventh overall) — both advance to final; 400m (final): Aishwarya (fourth).
Badminton: Men's team semifinals: bt Korea 3-2.
Basketball 3x3: Women (quarterfinal): lost to Chinese Taipei 10-21; **Qualification to quarterfinals: Women:** bt Malaysia 16-6; **Men:** lost to Iran 17-19.
Boxing: Women (quarterfinals): 54kg: Preeti bt Shekerbekova (Kaz); 75kg: Lovlina bt Seong (Kor); **Men:** 57kg (round-of-16): Sachin w.o. Turki (Kuw); +92kg (quarterfinal): Narender bt Iman (IRI); 71kg (quarterfinal): Nishant lost to Okazawa (Jpn).
Chess: Team (round 2): Men: drew with Uzbekistan; **Women:** bt Vietnam.
Golf: Round 3: Men: Individual: Anirban (T17), Chawrasia (T20), Khalin (T24), Shubhankar (T34); **Team:** Eighth. **Women: Individual:** Aditi (1), Pranavi (11), Avani (T19); **Team:** First.
Hockey: Men: Pool A: bt Pakistan 10-2.
Shooting: 10m air pistol mixed team (gold medal match): Sarabjot-Divya duo loses to Bowen & Ranxin (Chn), **wins silver**.
Trap (Stage 1): Men: Individual: 2. Kynan, 6. Zoravar, 19. Prithviraj; **Team:** Second; **Women: Individual:** 6. Preeti, 12. Manisha, 16. Rajeshwari; **Team:** Fourth.
Squash: Men's team (gold medal match): bt Pakistan 2-1.
Table tennis: Quarterfinals: Singles: Women: Manika lost to Yidi (Chn) 2-4. **Doubles: Men:** Manush & Manav lost to Woo-jin & Jong-hoon (Kor) 2-3; **Women:** Sutirtha & Ayhika bt Meng & Yidi (Chn) 3-1.
Tennis: Mixed doubles (gold medal match): Rutuja & Bopanna bt En-shuo & Huang (Tpe) 2-6, 6-3, [10-4].
Weightlifting: Women: 49kg: Mirabai (fourth); 55kg: Bindyarani (fifth).

Kartik and Gulveer make it a 2-3 in 10,000m; Xie, Ge clinch 100m gold

Aashin Prasad
HANGZHOU

Proud Indians: Kartik and Gulveer bask in the limelight after winning silver and bronze. PTI

When Kartik Kumar bolted away from the rest of the pack at the start of the men's 10,000m race, his countryman Gulveer Singh was meant to be with him and not in the group behind him. At least, that was their coach's plan.

According to Scott Simmons, the strategy for the pair was to run each 400m in 67 seconds and complete the race in under 28 minutes in order to break Surendra Singh's 2008 National record of 28:02.89. Though Kartik and Gulveer finished second and third, their main objective was the National mark.

"I felt that Gulveer should have gone with him," said Simmons. "He didn't have the confidence even though he should have had it because the two boys have been training like this for the last three months."

The thinking behind running a faster race was to capitalise on the tiring legs of the long-distance runners at the end of a long season in late September. Kartik has run only three 10000m races this year, while Gulveer has run three. Instead, they have come into the Asian Games with high-intensity training in high altitude of Colorado.

Gulveer eventually found the confidence to pull ahead along with the pack after the sixth lap and catch up with Kartik. Throughout the race, they remained within the group of six or seven runners, who led the race.

In the end, both Kartik and Gulveer finished with personal best timings and also took home a silver and bronze - their first major international honours in 10,000m. Kartik improved on his personal best by 39 seconds (2:15.38) and Gulveer by 36 seconds (28:17.21). Gulveer did while running the last 1000m of the race with a gash on his right leg, inflicted by one of the runners, subsequently resulting in several athletes tripping over in the final 1000m of the race.

PTI adds:

China claimed a 100m sprint double as Xie Zhenye and Ge Manqi won the gold. Xie powered to the men's title in 9.97s, ahead of Thailand's Puripol Boonson (10.02s) and Malaysia's Muhammad Azeem Mohd Fahmi (10.11s).

Ge came home in 11.23s to win the women's race, pipping Singapore's Shanti Pereira (11.27s) and Bahrain's Hajar Alkhaldi (11.35s).

India pummels Pakistan 10-2, its biggest margin against archrival

Uthra Ganesan
HANGZHOU

On fire: Lalit contributed to India's complete dominance over Pakistan. GETTY IMAGES

It was billed as the clash of arch-rivals; it ended up being a one-sided display of pure excellence and dominance as India thrashed Pakistan 10-2 in their Pool A match here on Saturday. This is the highest ever margin of victory for India against Pakistan, and the first time India has scored more than seven goals in 180 face-offs so far.

Even given the superiority of the Indian team, evident in the Asian Champions Trophy just over a month ago, this was clinical to the point of ruthless. The result assures India of a semifinal spot with a last league match against Bangladesh yet to come.

India dominated from the beginning and broke ahead early, Mandeep Singh deflecting in a pass from Abhishek in the 8th minute. There was wave after wave of Indian attack as the young and inexperienced Pakistan side struggled to keep pace with the Indians' speed.

The 2nd quarter was slightly better for Pakistan with a couple of chances that India had to scramble to save. The change of ends added a little spark to the Pakistan efforts, earning a series of penalty corners – they had a total 9 PCs to India's 5 – and converting twice. Captain Umar Bhutta was the lone bright spot running everywhere to keep his flock together.

So completely was India over the opposition that defender Varun Kumar, lurking inside the Pakistan circle, scored a field goal in the 41st minute, deflecting in Sukhjeet Singh's pass. By then, India was already six goals up.

"It was just off the back of the Japan game and I wasn't happy with the way we ended that so we wanted to set a marker for a complete game," coach Craig Fulton admitted.

And captain Harmanpreet, with his four goals – two penalty corners and two strokes – insisted the team wasn't getting ahead of it despite the massive win. "We are not thinking about the semifinals, we are going match-by-match only," he stressed.

The result:

India 10 (Harmanpreet Singh 4, Varun Kumar 2, Mandeep Singh, Lalit Upadhyay, Shamsher Singh, Sumit) bt Pakistan 2 (Mohd. Sufyan Khan, Abdul Rana).

Indian shuttlers one win away from first-ever team gold

Srikanth clinches a thrilling decider in the semifinals against South Korea; Prannoy and Lakshya's victories help it keep a clean slate in singles

Battling it out: Srikanth rallied to beat back the challenge of South Korea's Geonyeop. PTI

ASIAN GAMES

Press Trust of India
HANGZHOU

K. Srikanth rallied his way to a thrilling win in a tense decider as India kept alive its hopes of winning a first-ever gold medal at the Asian Games, reaching the men's team championships final with a 3-2 win over South Korea here on Saturday.

This is India's maiden entry into the final of the team event at the continental showpiece.

World No. 7 H.S. Prannoy showed nerves of steel to bounce back from an opening-game reversal to outwit Jeon Hyeok Jin 18-21, 21-16, 21-19 and put India 1-0 ahead but Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty lost the first doubles 13-21, 24-26 to reigning World champions Seo Seung-Jae and Kang Minhyuk as Korea made it 1-1.

Lakshya Sen then put up a dominating show in the second singles to bring India back in business with a clinical 21-7, 21-9 win over Lee Yungyu but M.R. Arjun and Dhruv Kapila lost 16-21, 11-21 to Kim Wonho and N.A. Sungseung in the second doubles as the teams found themselves on level terms once again.

Srikanth, a 2021 World Championships silver medallist, then fought his way under pressure to struggle past World no. 163 Cho Geonyeop 12-21, 21-16, 21-14 and seal India's place in the summit clash at the B.J. Gymnasium.

India will look to live up to its Thomas Cup champions tag when it faces multiple-time gold medallist China in the final on Sunday.

The last time the Indian men won a badminton medal in team championships was at the 1986 edition at Seoul where Prakash Padukone and Vimal Kumar played a crucial role.

From rookie to superstar, Neeraj returns to the stage where his success began

Uthra Ganesan
HANGZHOU

He was the most eagerly awaited Indian at the Athletes' Village even before the Asian Games commenced. Tracked and clicked at every step during his journey till Hangzhou, Neeraj Chopra is probably the one person everyone has on their wishlist here. The floppy-haired youngster who set a new national record at the 2018 edition five years ago has graduated to a global superstar.

From then to now, the world of Indian sports has changed with Neeraj now its lodestar. The man himself, though, remains as grounded as he was in his first Asian Games. "In 2018 it was just the start of a journey, I had participated in the Commonwealth Games before that. It was very good, I got a new national record of 88.06m.

"But yes, things have changed a lot since then, dreams of playing in the Olympics and winning a medal there and at the World Championships have been fulfilled so it feels nice. But this is the first time I will be trying to defend my title in a major tournament," he said during an interaction with Indian media here.

Dream journey: Neeraj with his coach Bartonietz, who is nicknamed Dr. Javelin.

Focus on performance

Neeraj insisted it was all about managing the body and mind and focusing on performance, not injuries. "The main focus and challenge this year was to stay fit till the Asian Games. The target was to do well in World Championships and that happened, the dream of a gold there was fulfilled. It was not easy because I missed a few events due to the strain at the start of the season itself."

And success in sports, like everything, is as much about the mind as the body.

"In sport, it doesn't always happen the way you think but you have to be prepared for every situation, keep yourself ready for big tournaments. I read some reports that Neeraj shouldn't be at the Asian Games and focus on Paris but I think running away from situations is no solution.

"Challenges have to be accepted, every athlete always has some little niggle. It is important to keep it away from your mind and focus on the target."

As the person every youngster here wants to talk to, Neeraj's message was simple. "I will tell them about my first outing in 2018. I will say I enjoyed that moment because till then it was a dream to simply participate in the Asian Games. There should not be any pressure on you when you are starting off. That passion and enjoyment must be retained.

"Yesterday, we got the shot put medal, I only said 'don't take any pressure, give 100% and play freely because you have nothing to lose at this point. Keep belief in yourself and learn from competitions like these, not just from winning but also losing, it will help a lot in future," he said simply.

With the inevitable India-Pakistan question cropping up, yet again, Neeraj had a message for everyone.

"In athletics, we don't compete against a nation. It's a global sport and players from all over the world are your competitors. On the field, we all keep pushing each other and meet nicely off it all the time.

"And at events like these, everyone stays together in the Village, trains, eats and moves together. That is the only message sports has to give," he declared.

HANGZHOU DIGEST

Clutch: Aditi took the lead with a 11-under in round 3. FILE PHOTO

Aditi zooms to the top

Aditi Ashok (22-under overall) took a seven-shot lead going into the final round of the individual golf competition at the Asian Games on Saturday.

The 25-year-old took the lead with an impressive 11-under in round three.

In the team event, the Indian women climbed two spots to reach the top of the standings.

Lovlina assures India of another medal

Lovlina Borgohain defeated Suyeon Seong of South Korea 5:0 in the Women's 75kg boxing quarterfinal to book a place in the semifinals of the women's 75kg event, assuring India of a medal in the continental event. Lovlina still has to win one more contest to secure a Paris 2024 berth.

INDIANS IN ACTION

A look at some Indian players/teams who will compete on Sunday (all times IST):

Archery: Individual qualification round: Recurve men (Dhiraj, Atanu, Mrinal, Tushar); Compound women (Avneet, Jyothi, Aditi, Parneet), 6.30 a.m.; Recurve women (Bhajan, Prachi, Ankita, Simranjeet); Compound men (Prathamesh, Rajat, Ojas, Abhishek), 11.50 a.m.

Athletics: Women: Heptathlon events: Swapna, Nandini (6.30 a.m. start, final event at 6.15 p.m.); 200m (heats): Jyothi (7.10 a.m.); Discus (final): Seema (5.35 p.m.); 1500m (final): Harmilan, Deeksha (5.50 p.m.); 100m hurdles (final): Jyothi, Nithya (6.45 p.m.).

Men: 200m (heats and semifinals): Amlan (7.45 a.m.); Shot put (final): Tajinderpal, Sahib (4.30 p.m.); Long jump (final): Sreeshankar, Jeswin (4.40 p.m.); 3000m steeplechase (final): Avinash (4.45 p.m.); 1500m (final): Ajay, Jinson (6 p.m.).

Badminton: Men's team (gold medal match): vs. China (2.30 p.m.).

Boxing: Women: 57kg (quarterfinals): Parveen vs. Turdibekova (Uzb), 11.45 a.m.; 60kg (quarterfinals): Jaismine vs. Won (PRK) 12.30 p.m.; 50kg (semifinals): Nikhat vs. Raksat (Tha), 4.30 p.m.

Chess: Team (round 3): Men and women, 12.30 p.m.

Equestrian: Eventing cross country team and individual: Apurva, Vikas, Ashish (5.30 a.m.).

Golf: Fourth and final round: Men's individual and team; Women's individual and team, 4 a.m.

Hockey: Women: Pool A: vs. South Korea (1.30 p.m.).

Shooting: Men's trap (qualification phase 2, team medals and individual final): Kynan, Prithviraj, Zoravar; Women's trap (qualification phase 2, team medals and individual final): Rajeshwari, Manisha, Preeti (6.30 a.m.).

Squash: Men's singles and mixed doubles matches, 8.30 a.m.

Pain, fall and nightmare... Mirabai's misery continues

WEIGHTLIFTING

Aashin Prasad
HANGZHOU

There was a nervous energy about Mirabai Chanu on Saturday as she stepped onto the platform for the clean and jerk. Before she could powder her hands with the chalk, she tried to set her weight belt in place.

With the clock ticking down, she struggled to find the right hole to buckle the belt around her waist, losing her focus in the process.

When she moved into position and lifted the barbell weighing 117kg on her collarbones in a squat, her hip gave away, crumbling to the floor, falling on her back.

As she lay there, the staff came running with boards to cover her and help take the eyes off of her. Finally, she had to be assisted to the end of the platform before her coach Vijay Sharma lifted her up and carried her away to the back.

Ouch! It couldn't have been worse for Mirabai as she crumbled to the floor, falling on her back. AP

Sharma had warned her not to push herself in the clean and jerk. Her two failed attempts in snatch after a hip and thigh injury meant, Mirabai had to lift 117kg in clean and jerk to push for, forget the gold, a bronze medal.

Despite the physical condition, she started strongly by lifting 108kg in her first attempt – she was originally set to start with 105kg – then asked for a 117kg barbell next.

"I tried for a bronze medal. If I cleared 117kg, I would have gotten bronze. It was my dream to win an Asian Games medal," said Mirabai, who had her right thigh heavily strapped, with a wry smile. "Maybe, it's my bad luck."

Back injury

Mirabai is an Olympic silver medallist, a Commonwealth Games and World champion but only the Asian Games medal is missing from her cabinet. A back injury had forced her to skip the 2018 edition.

On a day when North Korea's Ri Song-gum and China's Jiang Huihua made Asian Games and world records tumble, Mirabai endured a nightmare evening.

The Indian – who had felt pain in her hip during the deep sitting in her warm-ups – confidently snatched 83kg but wasn't successful with her two 86kg attempts that followed. She grimacingly walked off the stage knowing it had gotten worse.

"Sir told me not to [lift 117kg] and to let it go now, otherwise I will risk injuring myself. But I had it inside me saying 'I will do it. I have to get the medal'," she said. So she strapped herself with tape and got back out there for that elusive medal in vain.

With Song-gum and Huihua operating on a league of their own, Mirabai needed to up the stakes in clean and jerk, to overtake Thailand's Thanyathon Sukcharoen, who held a 7kg advantage over Mirabai after the snatch.

Wolves shock perfect Man City; Spurs pip nine-man Liverpool

EURO LEAGUES

Agence France-Presse
WOLVERHAMPTON

Manchester City's perfect start to the Premier League season came undone in a shock 2-1 loss to Wolves, as Manchester United slumped to a 1-0 home defeat to Crystal Palace on Saturday. In another match, Tottenham pipped nine-man Liverpool 2-1 at home on the back of Joel Matip's own goal in injury-time. Arsenal closed to within a point of the lead by cruising to a 4-0 win at Bournemouth, while Aston Villa thrashed Brighton 6-1 to move into the top four.

In LaLiga, Real Madrid stormed to the top of the table with a 3-0 victory against high-flying Girona at the Estadi Montilivi.

Upset victory: Hwang Hee-Chan's 66th minute winner stunned the defending champion. AP

The results: Premier League: Aston Villa 6 (Watkins 14, 21, 65, Estupinan 26-og, Ramsey 85, Luiz 90+8) bt Brighton 1 (Fati 50); Bournemouth 0 lost to Arsenal 4 (Saka 17, Odegaard 44-pen, Havertz 53-pen, White 90); Tottenham 2 (Son Heung-Min 36, Matip 90+6-og) bt Liverpool 1 (Gakpo 45+4).
Manchester United 0 lost to Crystal Palace 1 (Andersen 25); Newcastle 2 (Almiron 14, Isak 76-pen) bt Burnley 0; Wolves 2 (Dias 13-og, Hwang 66) bt Manchester City 1 (Alvarez 58).

LaLiga: Girona 0 lost to Real Madrid 3 (Joselu 17, Tchouameni 21, Bellingham 71).

Serie A: Lecce 0 lost to Napoli 4 (Oestigaard 16, Osimhen 51, Gaetano 88, Politano 90+4-pen); AC Milan 2 (Pulisic 60, Okafor 88) bt Lazio 0.

With a potent bowling unit and a brittle batting line-up, Sri Lanka has its task cut out

WC COUNTDOWN

Dhruva Prasad

Sri Lanka saw both sides of the spectrum during its recent 13-match winning streak in ODIs. It dismissed the opposition in 14 consecutive matches but its batting collapses were a persistent refrain during this period.

With Wanindu Hasaranga's injury ruling him out of the World Cup, Sri Lanka will miss its star all-rounder, whose leg-spin was pivotal to the team defending a string of low scores during its unbeaten run in the World Cup Qualifiers. Whether Maheesh Theekshana's mystery spin and Dunith Wellalage's recent exploits are enough to take Sri Lanka over the line will depend on the batters, who will be under the scanner.

Be it Kusal Perera or Kusal Mendis' flamboyance at the top or Sadeera Samarickwarama's composure in the middle, Sri Lanka has the personnel to counter different conditions. Perera, who returned to the ODI fold after more than two years during the Asia Cup, is yet to find consistency but has shown an attacking intent in the first PowerPlay.

In Pathum Nissanka, Sri Lanka's highest run-scorer in ODIs this year, Perera has an opening partner who can be the perfect foil with his sound technique. During the rough transition since 2015, the island nation has developed the knack of discovering unlikely match-winners and the Asia Cup title in 2022 was testimony to this ability. Though this means Sri Lanka hasn't identified a match-winning core, its unpredictability could be a potent weapon, as was evident during the Asia Cup Super-Fours where Wellalage stunned India's top-order and part-time off-spinner Charith Asalanka picked up four wickets.

ACE IN THE PACK

Maheesh Theekshana: Sri Lanka has historically depended on its bowlers, and particularly spinners, to take it deep into tournaments. Muttiah Muralidaran was its highest wicket-taker in 1996, 2007 and 2011. The Lankans will rely on the mystery spin and new-ball skills of Maheesh Theekshana, their top wicket-taker this year, to reprise a similar role.

Asalanka and Dhananjaya de Silva's all-round skills give Sri Lanka a plethora of bowling options, but the burning concern remains the batting form of captain Dasun Shanaka in the lower order. His woeful returns with the bat reflects in Sri Lanka's poor showing in the death overs since 2022, which contrasts sharply with its death bowling, led by rising star Matheesha Pathirana.

Sri Lanka's pace unit, which sees the return of Dilshan Madushanka and Lahiru Kumara from injury, is still without its most experienced member Dushmantha Chameera and lacks teeth.

Despite a precipitous fall since its glory days between 2007 and 2014, Sri Lanka often defies expectations. However, replicating the success of continental tournaments at the global stage could be a bridge too far, and in reaching the semifinals, Sri Lanka will exceed expectations again.

Sri Lanka (CHAMPION: 1996)

World Cup numbers

	M	W	L	T	NR
Overall	80	38	39	1	2
H2H against teams in the 2023 edition					
vs. New Zealand	11	6	5	0	0
vs. England	11	5	6	0	0
vs. India	9	4	4	0	1
vs. Bangladesh	3	3	0	0	0
vs. Afghanistan	2	2	0	0	0
vs. South Africa	6	1	4	1	0
vs. Australia	10	1	8	0	1
vs. Pakistan	7	0	7	0	0
vs. Netherlands	—	—	—	—	—

The Sri Lanka caravan

Oct. 7	vs. South Africa	Delhi	2 p.m.
Oct. 10	vs. Pakistan	Hyderabad	2 p.m.
Oct. 16	vs. Australia	Lucknow	2 p.m.
Oct. 21	vs. Netherlands	Lucknow	10.30 a.m.
Oct. 26	vs. England	Bengaluru	2 p.m.
Oct. 30	vs. Afghanistan	Pune	2 p.m.
Nov. 2	**vs. India**	**Mumbai**	**2 p.m.**
Nov. 6	vs. Bangladesh	Delhi	2 p.m.
Nov. 9	vs. New Zealand	Bengaluru	2 p.m.

Europe in control of Ryder Cup

Associated Press
ROME

Europe has control of the Ryder Cup, backed by the most lopsided match in history that brought Scottie Scheffler to tears.

The Americans can only cling to hope, and they have Patrick Cantlay to thank for that. He birdied his last three holes in the final fourballs match on Saturday, rolling in a 45-foot birdie putt over a ridge and into the cup to hand Rory McIlroy his first loss of the week.

Europe still had a five point lead – 10-1/2 to 5-1/2 – and no team has ever rallied from more than a four-point deficit going into the 12 singles matches on Sunday.

INBRIEF

Kishan and Sabeena win national tenpin bowling titles

R. Kishan of Karnataka and Sabeena Athica of Tamil Nadu claimed the men's and women's titles respectively in the ARC 32nd National tenpin bowling championships in Bengaluru on Saturday. Top seed Kishan won his maiden title defeating statemate Akaash Ashok Kumar in the final. After being tied at 373 pins each, a one ball roll-off decided the champion. In the women's category, second seed Sabeena won her 13th national title, defeating Sumathi Nallabantu (346-321) in the final.

India beats Thailand, takes seventh spot in jr. badminton

India beat Thailand 3-1 to finish seventh at the mixed team events of the Badminton World Junior championships here on Saturday.

The result: India 3 bt Thailand 1 (Samarveer & Radhika Sharma bt Tanakorn Meechai & Fungfa Korpthammakit 11-21, 21-19, 21-18; Tushar Suveer lost to Nachakorn Pusri 21-19, 21-11; Tara Shah bt Tonrug Saeheng 21-15, 24-26, 21-12; Divyam Arora & Mayank Rana bt Songpon Sae-ma & Phurinath Saikamma 21-18, 21-19).

LIVE TELECAST

Asian Games: Sony Sports Ten 2, 5 (SD & HD) & LIV, 5.30 a.m. onwards.

Serie A: Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & Jio Cinema App, 4, 6.30, 9.30 p.m. & 12.15 a.m. (Monday).

LaLiga: Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & Jio Cinema App, 5.30, 7.45 p.m. & 12.30 a.m. (Monday).

Premier League: SS Select 1 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 6.30 p.m.

ISL: Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & Jio Cinema App, 8 p.m.

KARNATAKA ROUND-UP

Shreeya sets a new mark in 400m hurdles

Shreeya Rajesh (Bengaluru) created a new meet record in the under-20 400m hurdles category with a timing of 1:00.02s in the Karnataka State junior and under-23 athletics meet at Mangaluru.

Other meet records: Boys: U-23: Hammer throw: Sachin, 55.33m (OMR: Rahul Ram, 52.55m, 2022); **.5,000m:** M.P. Vaibhav, 15:14.25s (OMR: A.R. Rohith, 15:30.1s, 2021); **3,000m:** Sanjeev Kumar, 9:52.41s (OMR: Rahul, 9:55.6s, 2022); **High jump:** Anil Kumar, 2.0m (OMR: J. Srajan, 1.93m, 2022). **U-18: Hammer throw:** P. Yashas, 65.55m, (OMR: Gavi Swamy, 63.71m, 2013); 400 hurdles: Sachin Birabal (54.84s), (OMR: G. Krishna, 55.2s, 2018).

Williams is head coach of RCB women's team

Royal Challengers Bangalore (RCB) has appointed Australia's Luke Williams as the head coach for the RCB women's team for WPL. The 43-year-old Adelaide-born has played First Class cricket for South Australia.

In his four-season stint as a head coach of Adelaide Strikers, Williams guided the team to its first Women's Big Bash League crown in 2022-2023 after two runners-up finishes.

Participation not enough, young shooters are now only thinking of gold: Gagan

The Indian Olympic Association vice-president says that seniors need to guide and protect the youngsters while not allowing them to be complacent

ASIAN GAMES

Uthra Ganesan
HANGZHOU

Golden generation: Gagan says that the temperament of young Indian shooters has gotten much better. REUTERS, PTI, ANI

Gagan Narang wears several hats but the one he feels most passionately about is Indian shooting. The Olympic medalist is here as the Indian Olympic Association vice-president but the sport remains close to his heart. On Wednesday, Narang was cheering for the Indian girls from the stands. "Very happy that young athletes are winning medals.

The average age of winning has reduced all over and India finds its place among that. It has been a good transition and we are getting stronger by the day. Someone winning a medal at the age of 19 is fantastic – Esha, Ramita, Mehuli, Rudrankksh, Aishwary – so it definitely looks good. We have had some unexpected performances here, specially in team events, and I am looking forward to taking back more shooting medals than the previous editions," Narang told The Hindu in an exclusive chat.

He added that while the winning age was getting lower, the temperament was getting better. "When we started, we just wanted to get into the top-20. Then a couple of years later, we wanted to get into the Finals.

"After a few more years, we wanted to get into the medal bracket, which we eventually did. But now, these youngsters are not even thinking about participation or Finals.

"They are only thinking of medals; that too, only the top one. That's a mindset change in Indian shooting," he explained.

"I also feel that Indian shooting has seen a generational shift and when that happens, obviously there is a lull in between.

"But now the medals have started coming in, we just need to guide and protect them and give them what is required – not more or less – because sometimes, too much also leads to complacency," he added.

But he also had a word of caution. "The support and knowledge they are getting has to be the right amount at the right time. We need to work on particular events, like the shotgun events, and areas where are missing narrowly, finishing fourth or fifth.

"We also need to remember that teams come in only in continental events, at the Olympics it's only individual.

"The idea is to not compete against a person or country but give your best and hope it's enough on that day," Gagan signed off.

Storm blows away India's World Cup warm-up match against England

Amol Karhadkar
GUWAHATI

Dampener: It was not an ideal dress rehearsal between England and the host. RITU RAJ KONWAR

Be it the southern end of the sub-continent or North-East India, rain hasn't stopped chasing the Indian team. A thunderstorm on Saturday afternoon turned the World Cup warm-up game between India and England into a damp squib.

A drizzle started minutes after Rohit Sharma won the toss and elected to bat. It soon grew into a storm. The umpires finally walked out for a formal inspection at 5: 30 p.m. - the scheduled innings break - and called the game off to the utter disappointment of the spectators who had hung around, hoping against hope for some cricketing action.

Long before the formal abandonment, both teams had returned to their hotels, sensing that the storm was not going to wither down so easily. While the ground staff struggled to cover the pitch and the bowling run-ups, operational hazards made their job worse than the sudden thunderstorm.

On Friday, the covers were rightly placed just outside the boundary rope. But sensing that it was hiding a part of the advertising billboards, the covers were placed beyond the signages on Saturday.

With a 7.30 p.m. cut-off, the umpires were informed that the groundstaff would take at least 90 minutes before the ground was made fit for play. Once the rain persisted, the umpires were forced to call off the game. The storm also blew away some of the branded hoardings at the south end of the Assam Cricket Association stadium. With the spectators having taken shelter, there were no injuries.

Besides, the water outlets in higher tiers also resulted in mini-waterfalls on the lower levels of the stands all over the stadium. Despite taking the long road to Guwahati, India will not be too disappointed with the abandonment. Rohit had told the host broadcaster that the game was "just a formality" for his team.

India's contingent will depart for Thiruvananthapuram on Sunday, where it will face the Netherlands on Tuesday, the last day of warm-ups. England, meanwhile, will hope for improved weather on Monday when it faces Bangladesh in its last warm-up fixture.

Pujara in focus as Saurashtra meets RoI

IRANI CUP

S. Prasanna Venkatesan
RAJKOT

Sandwiched between the Asian Games and the World Cup cricket, the Irani Cup match, which begins at the Saurashtra Cricket Association Stadium here on Sunday, derives its relevance from being the communion of the have-beens and the wannabes attempting to nourish their Team India prospects.

Cheteshwar Pujara, the can-do-all-day stonewaller, will be the buzz-making stately presence. Will be interesting to watch if he's being busy or attritional with the bat.

Pujara undoubtedly will be the bedrock of the Saurashtra batting that boasts of the second highest run-getter in the 2022-23 Ranji season, Arpit Vasavada. The team also has the 37-year-old Sheldon Jackson who's known to string long partnerships with Pujara.

The bowling will be spearheaded by captain Jaydev Unadkat. Pujara and Unadkat come off a county stint with Sussex.

Similarly, Rest of India's B. Sai Sudharsan comes off a county stint with Surrey. The 21-year-old, who has been in fine form and recently won the TNCA cricketer of the year award, will be among the young talents to watch out for along with Sarfaraz Khan, Yash Dhull, and Rohan Kunnummal.

RoI's batting will be shouldered by the experienced Mayank Agarwal, the highest run-getter in the last Ranji season, and captain Hanuma Vihari.

Navdeep Saini is expected to lead the pace attack with Karnataka's Vidwath Kaverappa. Shams Mulani (left-arm orthodox), the second highest wicket-taker in the 2022-23 Ranji season, Uttar Pradesh's Saurabh Kumar (left-arm orthodox), and Delhi's Pulkit Narang (off-spin) are the spnners in the squad.

K.S. Bharat will don the gloves for Rest of India.

Gretsy is poised to score a hat-trick

HYDERABAD: The 3-year-old filly Gretsy, who won very well in her last two starts, maintains her form and is poised to score a hat-trick in the G. Sudhakar Reddy Memorial Cup, the chief event of Sunday's (Oct. 1) races.

1 NEARCO PLATE (Div. I) (1,200m), (Terms) Maiden, 3-y-o only (Cat. II) – 12.40 p.m.: 1. Agreement (8) Vivek G 56, 2. Deccan Spirit (7) Akshay Kumar 56, 3. Five Star (4) A.A. Vikrant 56, 4. Magnum (3) Afroz Khan 56, 5. MN's Council (6) Md. Ismail 56, 6. Bold Beauty (2) P. Sai Kumar 54.5, 7. Magical Power (5) Surya Prakash 54.5, 8. Nav Lakhaa (1) G. Naresh 54.5 and 9. Toffee (9) Abhay Singh 54.5.

1. DECCAN SPIRIT, 2. MAGNUM, 3. BOLD BEAUTY

2 NEARCO PLATE (Div. II) (1,200m) (Terms) Maiden, 3-y-o only (Cat. II) – 1.10: 1. Assured Success (1) Kuldeep Singh (Sr) 56, 2. Faiz (7) Afroz Khan 56, 3. Great Giver (6) P. Ajeeth Kumar 56, 4. MavericK (8) A. Imran Khan 56, 5. Thunder Knight (4) Neeraj 56, 6. Zidane (2) G. Naresh 56, 7. Arnaz (3) Abhay Singh 54.5, 8. Deccan Daisy (9) P. Sai Kumar 54.5 and 9. The Platinum Queen (5) Surya Prakash 54.5.

1. MAVERICK, 2. GREAT GIVER, 3. FAIZ

3 NEARCO PLATE (Div. III) (1,200m), (Terms) Maiden, 3-y-o only (Cat. II) – 1.40: 1. Dali's Destiny (7) Suraj Narredu 56, 2. Federer (2) Shivansh 56, 3. Hoping Star (5) Mohit Singh 56, 4. Minecraft (3) Ashad Asbar 56, 5. Shadow Fax (4) A. Imran Khan 56, 6. That's My Love (1) P. Ajeeth Kumar 56, 7. Eminency (6) Surya Prakash 54.5, 8. Silver Act (8) Akshay Kumar 54.5 and 9. Subha (9) Afroz Khan 54.5.

1. SILVER ACT, 2. SHADOW FAX, 3. DALI'S DESTINY

4 TOTARAM'S CUP (Div. II) (1,400m), 5-y-o and upward, rated 40 to 65 (Cat. II) – 2.10: 1. Miss Marvellous (1) Mukesh Kumar 60, 2. Thanks (5) Kuldeep Singh (Jr) 60, 3. Top In Class (3) A.A. Vikrant 55.5, 4. Angelita (10) Ajay Kumar 54.5, 5. Beldona (11) A.M. Tograllu 54.5, 6. Star Racer (7) Kuldeep Singh (Sr) 54.5, 7. Sun Dancer (4) S. Saqlain 54, 8. D Yes Boss (9) P. Ajeeth Kumar 53.5, 9. Fly Tothe Stars (6) Afroz Khan 53, 10. Ice Berry (2) Md. Ekram Alam 52 and 11. Lady Danger (8) B. Nikhil 51.5.

1. THANKS, 2. ANGELITA, 3. SUN DANCER

5 G. SUDHAKAR REDDY MEMORIAL CUP (1,200m), rated 40 to 65 (Cat. II) – 2.45: 1. She Can (1) Antony Raj S 60, 2. Kenaf (5) Afroz Khan 58.5, 3. Cabello(8) Ajay Kumar 55, 4. Malibu (2) S. Saqlain 54.5, 5. Gretsy (3) Akshay Kumar 53.5, 6. Star Medal (6) R.S. Jodha 53, 7. Classy Dame (4) Abhay Singh 52 and 8. Royal Star (7) Md. Ekram Alam 51.5.

1. GRETSY, 2. SHE CAN, 3. KENAF

6 NARAYANPET PLATE (1,100m), rated 20 to 45 (Cat. III) – 3.20: 1. Milton Keynes (7) Md. Ekram Alam 60, 2. Life's Living (11) Shivansh 58, 3. Alexina (1) Santosh Raj 57.5, 4. Ambitious Star (5) R.S. Jodha 57.5, 5. Happy Go Lucky (8) Ashad Asbar 57.5, 6. Delhi Heights (10) B. Nikhil 57, 7. Precious (4) Antony Raj S 56.5, 8. Das (12) G. Naresh 55.5, 9. Deccan Ranger (2) Ajay Kumar 51.5, 10. Club Queen (13) Surya Prakash 51, 11. Crown Witness (6) P. Sai Kumar 50.5, 12. Inderdhanush (9) Kuldeep Singh (Jr) 50.5 and 13. Sound Echo (3) Vivek G 50.5.

1. MILTON KEYNES, 2. PRECIOUS, 3. LIFE'S LIVING

7 TOTARAM'S CUP (Div. I) (1,400m), 5-y-o and upward, rated 40 to 65 (Cat. II) – 3.55: 1. See My Spark (7) A. Imran Khan 60, 2. N R I Sport (5) Akshay Kumar 59.5, 3. Best Buddy (8) R.S. Jodha 57.5, 4. Despang (1) S. Saqlain 56, 5. Wallop And Gallop (3) P. Ajeeth Kumar 55.5, 6. Its On (10) B. Nikhil 54, 7. Unmatched (9) A.A. Vikrant 54, 8. Silk (6) Ashad Asbar 53, 9. Aurele (4) Neeraj 52.5, 10. Indian Temple (2) Surya Prakash 51 and 11. Pinatubo (11) Abhay Singh 51.

1. N R I SPORT, 2. WALLOP AND GALLOP, 3. DESPANG

8 ASIFABAD PLATE (1,400m), 4-y-o and upward, rated 20 to 45 (Cat. III) – 4.30: 1. Starwalt (8) Kuldeep Singh (Jr) 60, 2. Master Touch (4) Akshay Kumar 59.5, 3. Pal Cha (6) A. Imran Khan 59.5, 4. Honourable Lady (2) Mohit Singh 55.5, 5. Spectacular Cruise (7) A.A. Vikrant 55, 6. London Bell (1) Md. Ekram Alam 53.5, 7. Burgundy Black (9) Vivek G 53, 8. Sweet Talk (3) Ashad Asbar 51 and 9. Think Of God (5) Surya Prakash 50.5.

1. STARWALT, 2. MASTER TOUCH, 3. PAL CHA

9 BELOVED PRINCE PLATE (1,200m), rated 20 to 45 (Cat. III) – 5.05: 1. D Right Time (8) Akshay Kumar 60, 2. Colt Pistol (2) Vivek G 59.5, 3. Calisson (4) Neeraj 59, 4. Only The Brave (13) Santosh Raj 58.5, 5. Fara (5) Ashad Asbar 57.5, 6. Pontefract (10) Afroz Khan 57, 7. Desert Sultan (9) A.A. Vikrant 56.5, 8. Kenna (1) Kuldeep Singh (Sr) 55.5, 9. Lights On (12) Abhay Singh 54.5, 10. Great Combo (7) R.S. Jodha 53.5, 11. Silver Lining (3) S. Saqlain 53.5, 12. Black Opal (6) G. Naresh 51 and 13. Ampere's Touch (11) P. Sai Kumar 50.5.

1. COLT PISTOL, 2. CALISSON, 3. D RIGHT TIME

Day's Best: **GRETSY**

Jackpot: (i) 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5. (ii) 5, 6, 7, 8 & 9. Mini Jackpot: (i) 2, 3, 4 & 5, (ii) 6, 7, 8 & 9. Treble: (i) 1, 2 & 3, (ii) 4, 5 & 6, (iii) 7, 8 & 9. Tanala: All races.

Chiranth, Prabhu win a race apiece

MOTORSPORTS

Sports Bureau
CHENNAI

Teenager Chiranth Vishwanath (Petronas TVS Racing) and veteran Prabhu Arunagiri (Pacer Yamaha) shared honours by winning a race apiece in the premier Pro-Stock 165cc open category of the MRF-MMSC-FMSCI National motorcycle championships on Saturday.

Chiranth Vishwanath

Provisional results (all six laps unless mentioned): National Championship: Pro-Stock 301-400cc Open: 1. Rajiv Sethu (RACR Castrol Power1 Ultimate) (11mins, 21.000secs); 2. Rahil Pillarisetty (KTM Gusto Racing) (11:22.194); 3. Alwin Sundar (KTM Gusto Racing) (11:27.023).

Pro-Stock 165cc Open: Race-1: 1. Chiranth Vishwanath (Petronas TVS Racing) (09:56.159); 2. Rajiv (09:58.863); 3. K.Y. Ahamed (Petronas TVS Racing) (10:03.002). **Race-2:** 1. Prabhu Arunagiri (Pacer Yamaha) (11:48.680); 2. Sarthak Chavan (Petronas TVS Racing) (11:52.473); 3. Ahamed (11:52.859).

Novice (Stock 165cc): 1. Manvith Reddy K (RACR Castrol Power1 Ultimate) (13:16.375); 2. Abdul Basim (Rockers Racing) (13:16.375); 3. Tasmai Cariappa (Pacer Yamaha 1) (13:16.869).

Girls (Stock 165cc, 5 laps): 1. Lani Zena Fernandes (RACR Castrol Power1 Ultimate) (11:10.327); 2. Jagathishree (One Racing) (11:12.974); 3. Ryhana Bee (Axor Sparks Racing) (11:17.529).

Support Race (301-400cc, Novice): 1. Rohit Lad (12:50.702); 2. Aldrin Babu (RACR Castrol Power1) (12:53.293); 3. Vivek M (Eminence Racing) (12:53.336).

Petronas TVS One-Make Championship: Open (Apache RR 310): 1. Chiranth (11:34.135); 2. Senthil Kumar C (11:38.154); 3. G. Balaji (11:42.214).

Girls (Apache RTR 200, 5 laps): 1. Saimah Ajaz Baig (11:19.600); 2. Nadine Faith Balaji (11:20.014); 3. Aisvariya V (11:34.185).

EBFC's Cleiton Silva finds the HFC net just in the nick of time

ISL-10

Amitabha Das Sharma
KOLKATA

Saviour: Cleiton's injury-time freekick and first half goal won it for Cuadrat's men against HFC. DEBASISH BHADURI

Cleiton Silva's brilliant freekick conversion in the second half injury-time helped East Bengal beat former champion Hyderabad FC 2-1 to record its first win of the ISL-10 season, at Salt Lake Stadium here on Saturday. The Brazilian forward had previously scored the equaliser almost immediately after Hyderabad found the lead through Hitesh Sharma in the eighth minute of the first half.

The opening half was all about the two goals which the opponents shared to remain locked till the interval. EBFC dominated proceedings initially but Hyderabad found the lead first off a defensive error from the host that allowed forward Joseph Knowles to cut inside and shoot. His effort took a deflection off the East Bengal midfielder Souvik Chakrabarti and reached an unmarked Hitesh, who directed the ball into the net.

The Hyderabad lead was short lived as Carles Cuadrat's men regrouped quickly and found the equaliser. The chance was created after Hyderabad deference let down its guard as Spanish play-maker Borja Herrera surged into the box. Nim Dorjee Tamang managed a half-hearted tackle to see the ball rolling over to Cleiton, who just chipped over goalkeeper Laxmikant Kattimani to find the net.

East Bengal seemed to lose its way after the equaliser allowing the contest to drift into a listless essay. This was before Cleiton found the winner in the added time with a finishing that spoke a lot about his Brazilian lineage.

The result: East Bengal 2 (Cleiton Silva 10 & 90+3) bt Hyderabad 1 (Hitesh Sharma 8).